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சுதந்திரத் திருநாள் அமுதப் பெருவிழா

'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme inaugurated

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, welcomed the students who had returned from Ukraine to Tamil Nadu, by giving them flower bouquets at Chennai airport on 12.03.2022.

March 8 :
International Women's Day

women have the power to break the shackles of slavery

I extend my warm Women's Day greetings to women, who are essential for the making of a new world order!

The Dravidian movement is the only movement that opposes and fights against racial and gender bias. Thanthai Periyar raised the question, 'Why did women become slaves' and also created awareness among them. The Dravidian model Government, which follows the path of Perarignar Anna and Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar, has been implementing various schemes for the benefit of women.

Equal property rights for women, 30 per cent to 40 per cent increase in reservation for women in Government jobs, women-only teachers in primary schools, reservation in Local Bodies, increase in maternity leave to one year, women self-help groups, free gas burners, marriage assistance and other welfare schemes in the name of E.V.R.Maniammaiyar, Dr.Muthulakshmi Reddy, Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar and Dr. Dharmambal, concession in educational fee, free bus travel in metro transport buses and so on and so forth. These schemes are meant to retrieve the socio-economic rights of women.

These pioneering schemes of the DMK are torch bearers for the entire Country.

The trend that women were treated as slaves in practice, while they were praised in words are changing fast. The welfare and rights of women will be protected. The Dravidian Model Government will stand and support the upliftment of women.

Women alone have the power to break the shackles of slavery.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K.Stalin

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"Iyalbulik kolochu Mannavan Naatta
Peyalum Vilayulum Thokku" -Kural: 545

A reign that does not swerve from the path of justice is comparable to the bountiful crops that result from timely rains.

- From Kalaignar's commentary on the Kural

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First Wrapper

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru M.K.Stalin** launched the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme for the skill development of school and college students, and released the logo specially created for this scheme at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai, on 01.03.2022.

Birthday Celebrations of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin

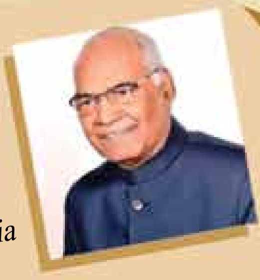
The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, on the occasion of his birthday on 01.03.2022, paid floral tributes to the portrait of Muthamizh Arignar Dr. Kalaignar, at his Gopalapuram residence, at the memorial of Thanthai Periyar at Vepery and at the memorials of Perarignar Anna and Muthamizh Arignar Dr.Kalaignar on the Marina and to the portrait of Inamana Perasiriyar at his residence in Kilpauk.

Birthday greetings to Hon'ble Chief Minister

May you continue to work for the growth of Tamil Nadu

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India **Thiru. Narendra Modi** conveyed his birthday greetings to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** over phone. In his greetings, the Hon'ble Prime Minister expressed his good wishes that Thiru.Stalin should continue to serve for the growth of Tamil Nadu. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K. Stalin, while thanking Thiru. Modi for his greetings, said he would continue to work for the growth of the State with his co-operation.

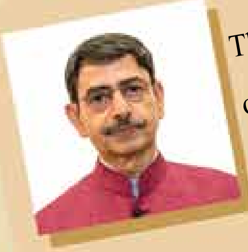
Greetings for a long public life



*The Hon'ble President of India **Thiru. Ram Nath Kovind**, contacted Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** over phone and extended him his greetings. The Hon'ble President expressed his good wishes that Thiru. Stalin should serve the people of Tamil Nadu and have a long public life.*

Tmt. Sonia Gandhi, president of the All-India Congress Committee, contacted Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** over phone and conveyed her greetings to the Hon'ble Chief Minister

Former Congress President **Thiru. Rahul Gandhi**, while greeting Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** over phone, said he was happy to see him being youthful and wished him a long life with good health.

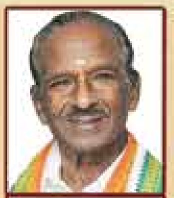


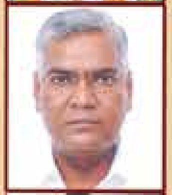
The Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. R.N.Ravi**, greeted Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** over phone in Tamil.

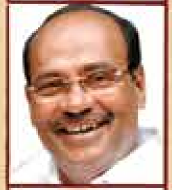
On behalf of the Governor, a flower bouquet was given to the Hon'ble Chief Minister by a Deputy Secretary from the Governor's office.

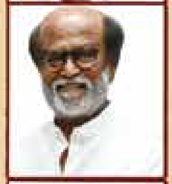
Hon’ble Chief Minister of West Bengal **Ms. Mamata Banerjee** greeted Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** on his birthday and also sent a flower bouquet.

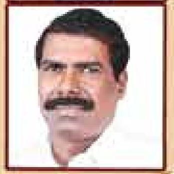
Hon’ble Chief Minister of Puducherry **Thiru. N.Rangaswamy** contacted Hon’ble Chief Minister **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** over phone and greeted him on his birthday.











Former Tamil Nadu Congress President Thiru. Kumari Anandan,

General Secretary of the Communist Party of India Thiru. D.Raja,

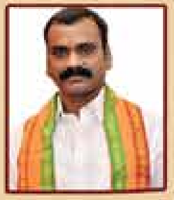
Founder of the Pattali Makkal Katchi Dr.Ramadoss ,

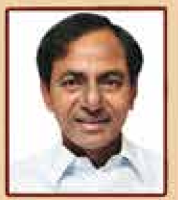
Super Star Thiru. Rajinikanth,

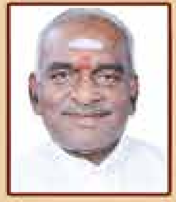
Makkal Needhi Maiam leader, Thiru. Kamal Haasan

Legislative Party leader of the Pattali Makkal Katchi, Thiru. G.K.Mani,

were among those who greeted the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** over phone on his birthday







The Hon’ble Governor of Telangana, Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan,

Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, and Information and Broadcasting Thiru. L.Murugan,

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Telangana, Thiru. Chandrashekhar Rao,

Former Union Minister of State Thiru. Pon.Radhakrishnan,

Thavathiru. Kunrakkudi Ponnambala Adigalar,

contacted the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K.Stalin** over phone and conveyed their greetings.

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, handed over a cheque for Rs. 5 lakh to the development fund of the Little Flower Convent Higher Secondary School for the Blind and Deaf to the school head Sister Nirmala, on the occasion of his birthday on March 1.

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** at his birthday celebrations on 01.03.2022 at the Little Flower Convent Higher Secondary School for the Blind and Deaf *(English translation)*.

Respected teachers who have been maintaining the school administration in a commendable manner, my beloved students and sisters, at the outset I extend my hearty welcome to all of you.

Every year on my birthday, I get an opportunity to participate in the functions organized by the Little Flower School Administration. I also attend your functions regularly and receive your greetings. Whoever else greets me, it is not equal to your greetings. That is the reason I make it a point to participate in your functions every year.

Every year when I make my acceptance speech I used to repeatedly mention one thing. Every year I mention the year of my birth and my age. If I say that I am 69 this year, no one will believe me. People say that I look young and my age may be only 39. The reason for my youthfulness is that I maintain health, do regular exercise and have regular food habits. My age comes down by five years when I meet you. This is what I think. I am meeting you in a similar manner, especially after becoming Chief Minister of the State with your love, affection and support.

Every year when I participate in your functions, my official position has been improving. The first time when I participated, I was a Legislative Member of Thousand Lights Constituency, next I was the Mayor of Chennai Corporation, then the Minister for Local Administration and subsequently the Deputy Chief Minister. Now I participate in this year's function as the Chief Minister of the State. Now I have come here as Chief Minister, your Chief Minister. I never allow official positions to go to my head. I am always one among you. No one can separate the relationship between you and me. Power may come and go. That is different. Sisters, elders and students who presented the welcome speech through a song listed the achievements of this Government in the last 9 months. That is more important.

I never consider this post as a big one but only as a responsibility bestowed on me and I am acquitting myself well. My birthday comes on March 1 every year. But last year due to the Corona pandemic I could not meet you. But I made it a point to meet you after some time.

Even today, I decided to meet you first, before others greet me on my birthday. For that purpose, I informed my cadres to get your concurrence. Now you are the first to greet me and my party cadres, officials and public come only after that. This gives me immense pleasure.

As it is the first function on my birthday, I cannot forget it. With your good wishes my journey will continue. Through you, I extend my good wishes to all those who greeted me on the occasion of my birthday. With these words that I conclude my speech and seek your blessings for continuing my responsibility.

Launching Ceremony of Skill Development Program for School, College Students and Youth

NAAN MUTHALVAN

Ulagai Vellum Ilaya Tamizhagam

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** launched a new scheme - Naan Mudhalvan' - at Kalaivanar Arangam on 01.03.2022 for skill development and guidance to school, college students and youth, not only in education but also to triumph in life, and released a logo specially designed for the scheme. He also released a guidance textbook for school students in respect of higher education and employment opportunities and inaugurated a web portal - naanmudhalvan.tnschools.gov.in - specially created for it.

The prime aim of the scheme is to improve 10 lakh youth every year in education, knowledge, thought, skills and efficiency and dedicate them to the nation.

A special feature of this scheme is to identify the exclusive talents of school, college and university students and encourage them further. They will be guided progressively on the course of education they can take, where to study and how to go about in their studies. To get special proficiency in the Tamil language a special training will be given. Along with it, they will be trained in writing and fluently speaking English and in handling interviews.

School students will be exposed to coding and robotic classes in tune with the present technological development. Summer special classes will be conducted with experts in every field.

Apart from these, advice will be given on food intake with the help of psychiatrists and doctors. Training will be given on physical exercise, walking, dress, civil behavior and mingling with people. Awareness will be created in students about Tamil culture and tradition.

All this training will be given by expert trainers; as per need, they will be direct or online, in the respective colleges and District-wise. Every school will have a guidance centre. Exclusively for this, an art programme and an academic programme will be created and classes will be conducted continuously for the students from 9th to 12th standards. With the help of former students, a system will be introduced for mentoring Government school students. This scheme provides scope for learning foreign languages to college students to firm up their job opportunities abroad as per their desire.

Government Industrial Training Institutes will be upgraded to Industry 4.0 level. Affiliation of students to top-most institutions/ famous universities/ skill development institutions as per their qualification and enthusiasm exhibited, will be determined through continuous training.

Under this scheme, job opportunities in Departments and Corporations of

Handbook on Higher education and job opportunities released

Government of Tamil Nadu, in the Union Government and in other States will be published as announcements and all the training will be integrated. Beneficiaries of such training will be continuously monitored for their success in getting jobs and in continuing in them. Besides, integrated employment camps will be conducted as per need. A website containing all the details of this scheme will be created.

Under the direct supervision of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Department of Special Programmes Implementation will coordinate this new scheme. In the Districts, committees headed by District Collectors will implement this scheme.

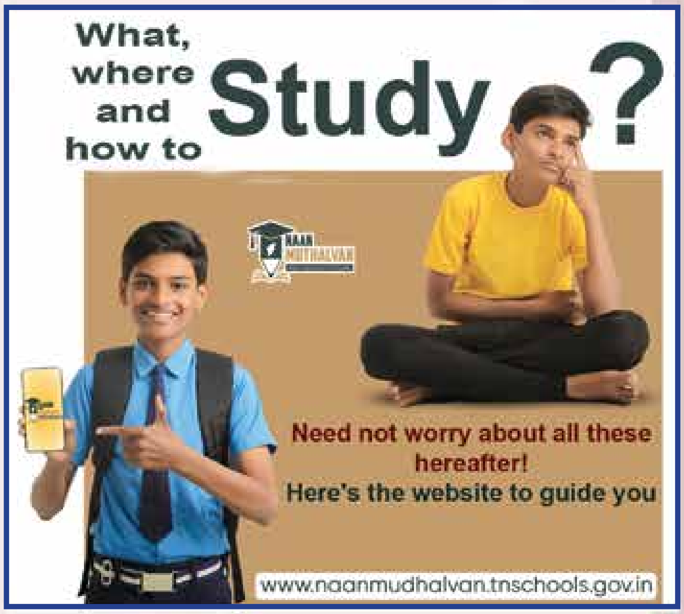
The Hon'ble Chief Minister presented certificates to teachers who have undergone the training and distributed to student participants at the event, handbooks regarding job opportunities.

Hon'ble Chief Minister's speech at the event *(English Translation)*:

Chief Secretary to Government Dr. V. Irai Anbu I.A.S., who has delivered the welcome address at this inaugural of the new scheme 'Naan Mudhalvan', Hon'ble Ministers of Tamil Nadu including Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources Brother Thiru.Durai Murugan who have participated as special guests, Members of Legislature and Parliament, Government officers at various levels, special guest Deputy High Commissioner of UK in Chennai Thiru. Oliver Ballhatchet, DGP Dr.Sylendra Babu, International Chess Grandmaster Thiru. Viswanathan Anand who is participating through the web, Indian Institute of Technology Director Thiru. Kamakoti Veezhinathan, ISRO scientist Thiru. Mayilsamy Annadurai, Managing Director and CEO of Daimler India Commercial Vehicles (P) Ltd., Thiru. Satyakam Arya, Indian cricket player Thiru. Natarajan Thangarasu, Dr.Sandhya Chinthala, Executive Officer Thiru. Suresh Sambandam, Education and employment guidance expert Thiru. Nedunchezhian, educationists, my dear students, affectionate media personnel, elders, ladies, friends - I extend my affectionate greetings to all of you.

This is a golden day in my life. I am not saying this because today is my birthday. This is the day of inauguration of my dream scheme, 'Naan Mudhalvan'.

People of Tamil Nadu have made me the Chief Minister and I have prepared this scheme to elevate all our students to the foremost slot. This scheme will help all students and the youth of Tamil Nadu to qualify themselves in all ways, progress and bring about a situation where all of them occupy the prime place in all fields. The purpose of the scheme is to make students become the best in education, research, thinking, action and efficiency.



In his song 'Oli padaitha kanninai vaa vaa vaa', Mahakavi Bharathiyar has a line that goes as, 'Naadellaam oru perumseyal seivaai vaa vaa vaa' – which means, 'You who would achieve a great feat throughout the Country… come along, come along, come along'. The 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme is one such great act.

Students! School and college students! Recite to yourselves 'Naan Mudhalvan' a few times; you will feel a new energy surging forth in you; you will gain confidence, courage!

It is easy to say 'Naan mudhalvan'; but it is not an easy task to come first in all matters. First you have to prepare yourself; you should have a clear idea about your particular talent. Many people choose their course in line with their parents' wishes. You have to join the course you desire, a course in which you have interest. You should take it up not just for getting the degree but to fully grasp the subject.

The population is increasing by the day; hence competition too will be more. States like Tamil Nadu have plenty of educational institutions; hence a college degree can be easily obtained. But, you can succeed in the wide world only if you have a special talent that goes beyond your degree.

You have to enroll yourself in global-level competitions. You have to promote yourself as a talented person. Today, even persons with 3 degrees are hesitant to talk in front of four people. There is no clarity in their talk; no courage; there is no new effort in them. There is a feeling

So many students complete their school education in Tamil Nadu. Many become graduates. But do all of them get jobs? It remains a question mark. A reason is put forward by some for unemployment. "There are plenty of jobs but there are not enough youth qualified for those jobs. This is sad. They have obtained degrees, but they don't have a clear idea about their subject of study".

We proudly say that of the institutions of higher education in India, 33 per cent are in Tamil Nadu. On the other hand we are distressed over the deficiency in skills. We are proud there is no village that does not have a school; at the same time we are sad that such learners have not developed a skill of their own.

"World countries fear India – not because of its arsenal but because of its youth force". We have such a reputation. But does that youth force have work skills? The answer is no; we have to say it.

There is no point in listing their deficiencies alone. We have to try to make them full-fledged people. This scheme is to achieve it. For that reason, we have named the scheme, 'Naan Mudhalvan'.

Certificates for trained teachers...

of resignation and all they want is to land in some job. There is a sense of frustration and they lack the confidence that they will get a good job. These are the factors that pull down a man. More than hurdles out there, the inner psychological ones are numerous. I am proud to say that this 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme will smash those psychological barriers.

I have shaped this scheme. This is a scheme that will qualify the students; it will uplift the youth. It will show that a student of Tamil Nadu is in no way inferior to a student of any other Country in quality and eligibility.

Through this scheme, we will integrate institutions, industries, Government institutions and educational institutions. We are fully involved in this effort. I take up as my prime goal the preparation of youth as qualified personnel for jobs in Government and industries.

I have taken the vow to shape students and youth in a way that they are excellent in education, are capable of original thinking, possess special talent, work skills and management skills.

Let those talented in arts become artists. Let those who have industrial skills become entrepreneurs. Let those excelling in sports become sporting champions. Let those talented in management start companies. Rather than seeking employment everyone should become providers of employment. Instead of knocking on others' doors, one should be in a position to provide jobs. If you wish that your name should figure in such a list of enablers, I remind you again and again that this is the scheme for it.

Education should not be degree oriented, it should be skill oriented. Work is not just about getting a salary; it should become a question of using one's skills usefully.

There is a person who will create such a talent in you; he is the Chief Minister of the state, M.K.Stalin. You should keep this in mind from today. As your elder brother, I will directly witness your growth from a distance. For that I have evolved a scheme under my direct supervision.

We will observe your studies; we will promote your unique talent; we will foster your scientific ability; we will inculcate self-confidence and courage and ourselves provide training as you wish; we will develop your knowledge of technology; we will introduce newer and newer courses of study and

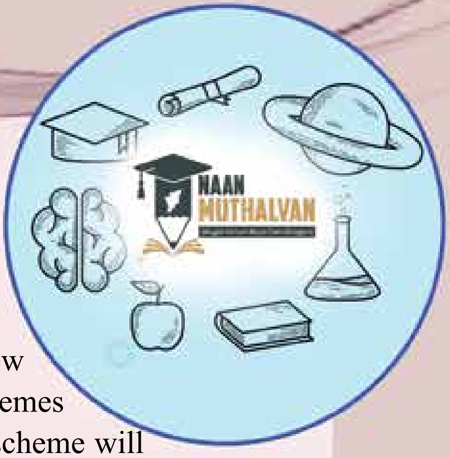
train competent youth in those courses. We will place all modernity in your palm. We will develop your language skills: whether in mother tongue Tamil or world language English, every one of you should know how to write, read and speak. We will provide you with physical instruction as well as psychological acumen. We will teach you body building as well as character building. To put it in a nutshell, 'Naan Mudhalvan' is a scheme that will take care of you like your mother.

I have been speaking of inclusive all-round development. Now you will understand this is what I have been stating as the Dravidian model. I have also been stating that the Tamil Nadu economy should grow by 2030 to one trillion dollars.

If the economy is to develop in this manner, skill development for 2 million youths in Tamil Nadu should be achieved by 2026. For that we are going to provide training to our students. Before that, we are going to provide training to teachers who will train the students.

Hereafter, schools will turn into guidance centres for courses of study and places of study; colleges will become centres for employment eligibility. The Government itself will set up centres to coach those in search of employment.

To sum up, I am very proud to announce through this event that the Government of Tamil Nadu wishes to transform all the students and youth of Tamil society into highly qualified persons.



Some schemes will be useful for some weeks; some others for a few months; some more schemes for a few years. But this scheme will benefit generations to come.

If after a quarter or half century, a person states that he progressed on account of the 'Naan Mudhalvan' scheme created by a Chief Minister named M.K. Stalin on March 1, 2022, that will certainly be the greatest glory for me.

Students of Tamil Nadu! I heartily greet all of you who have participated in the inaugural of this M.K. Stalin's dream scheme – 'Naan Mudhalvan'. A bright future awaits you; your life is going to bloom.

From today, you are going to become a new person. I am proud and happy that I got an opportunity to light up your life. The Government will shortly announce in detail the training to be provided in schools and colleges. That announcement will mark the rise of knowledge.

I am one of you and view the inauguration of this scheme by me on my birthday, as the proudest moment of my life. I am happy to have met you all. I sense your birthday greetings to me. Accepting those greetings, I conclude my speech.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu ***Thiru. M. K. Stalin*** *greeted Hon'ble Mayor of the Greater Chennai Corporation Tmt. R. Priya and Respectful Deputy Mayor Thiru. M. Maheshkumar, on 04.03.2022.*

Hon'ble Chief Minister initiates manifold steps for speedy rescue of medical students in Ukraine

Russia's military invasion of Ukraine early morning on 24.02.2022 came to be known through media reports. About 5,000 Tamil Nadu students, most of them studying professional courses and migrants from the state, were stranded.

Contact officers appointed: Calls to the Government for rescuing them started pouring in from the family members of the stranded people in Tamil Nadu. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu passed an order appointing the Commissioner, of Rehabilitation of Non-Resident Tamils Tmt. Jacintha Lazarus I.A.S., as state nodal officer to coordinate information about the stranded people and undertake rescue operations. He also appointed as contact officers, the Personal Assistant (General) to the District Collector in each District, Additional Chief Secretary/ Chief Resident Commissioner (Home) and Resident Commissioner (Home) at Tamil Nadu Illam, New Delhi.

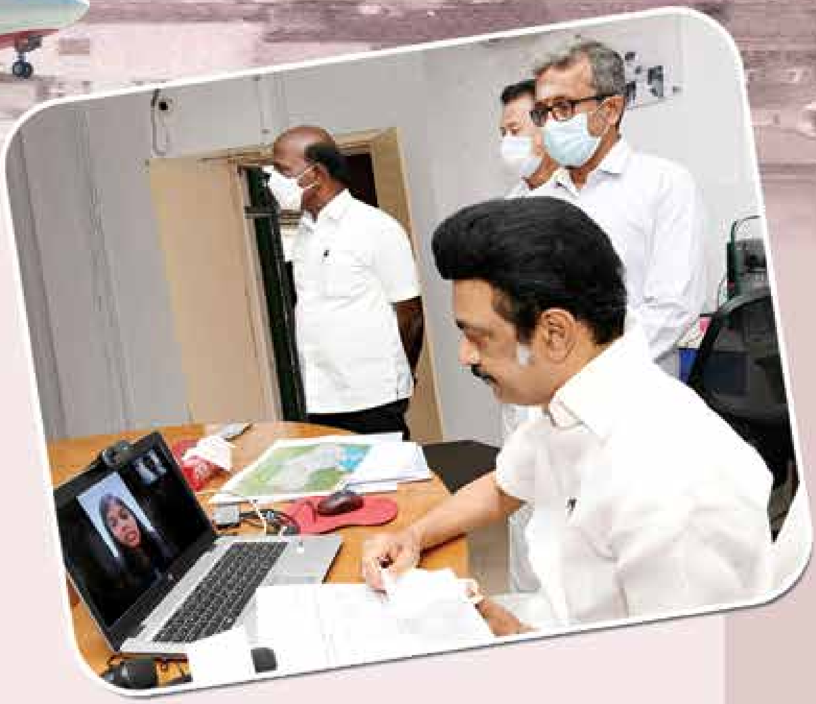
Families of the stranded people were requested to get in touch with the contact officers and share the details about their relatives in Ukraine.

Phone numbers given: The phone numbers to get in touch with contact officers were made available to the families. Their numbers : State Emergency Control Room- Toll free 1070; Tmt. Jacintha Lazarus – Commissionerate's phone numbers 9445869848/9600023645/9940256444/044-28515288; Ukraine Emergency Helpline, Tamil Nadu Pothigai Illam, New Delhi Whatsapp no. 9289516716; e - mail address – ukrainetamils@gmail.com.

Letter to the Hon'ble Union External Affairs Minister: Hon'ble Chief Minister wrote a letter on 24.02.2022 to the Hon'ble Union External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar requesting the Union Government to take speedy steps to airlift the stranded Tamil Nadu students and emigrants by a special plane.

In his letter, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has stated that he would like to draw the immediate attention of the Hon'ble Union External Affairs Minister to the media reports about Russia's military invasion of Ukraine on the early morning of 24.02.2022, about 5,000 students from Tamil Nadu studying in professional colleges there besides migrants from the state were in distress due to this development and that as he was receiving hundreds of distress calls from the families of the students in Tamil Nadu, he was requesting the Union Government to bring them to India speedily. The help of the Union Government was needed to safely transport the stranded Indians in Ukraine as the airports there had closed down.

He has further stated in the letter that the Government of Tamil Nadu had set up help lines functioning round-the-clock and had made



arrangements for the stranded Tamil families in Ukraine to coordinate with the District administration here and that a nodal officer had been appointed at the state level for the safe evacuation of Tamils from Ukraine. His recommendation to the Union Government, he has stated, would be to announce a co-ordinator exclusively for Tamil Nadu for co-ordination. He has also mentioned his request to the Union Government to take this issue to the highest level in the Ukraine Government and that the Union Government should make immediate arrangements for the operation of 'Vande Bharat' Mission from various parts of that Country .

State Government to bear travel expenses: The Hon'ble Chief Minister announced that the Government of Tamil Nadu would bear the travel expenses of stranded Tamils for their return to Tamil Nadu.

Till 10 a.m. 25.02.2022, 916 students and migrants had contacted the contact officers at District and state levels and with those appointed in New Delhi. In this scenario, the Hon'ble Chief Minister had passed the orders that the Government would bear the travel expenses of the returnees.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister's interaction with students through video conferencing on the prevailing situation: Russia's invasion of Ukraine had overturned the normalcy there. In such a situation, the Hon'ble Chief Minister interacted through video conferencing with Selvi Mouni Sujitha of Erode District, Selvan Antony of Tiruchi District and Selvan Navaneetha Sriram of Thoothukudi District, enquired about the present conditions there, informed them that the Government of Tamil Nadu was taking up the necessary steps to rescue them and advised them to remain in their places of stay, safely and courageously.

Telephonic request to the External Affairs Minister: The Government of Tamil Nadu has been taking many steps to bring back the students from Ukraine. In this connection, the Hon'ble Chief Minister spoke over the phone, with the Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of the Union Government Thiru. Jaishankar, gave him the details about Tamil Nadu students in Ukraine and requested him that besides ensuring their safety and basic needs, necessary steps should be taken for their quick return for which a special officer should be appointed. The Hon'ble External Affairs Minister assured him that the Indian Government was taking all steps to bring the students of Tamil Nadu to India shortly and that they would be shortly retrieved and brought back.

Chief Minister's statement on the death of Karnataka student: In his statement dated 02.03.2022, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has said: 'The loss of Naveen of Karnataka state is highly distressing. He had gone to Ukraine without any other option to realize his dream of joining the medical course as he could not get a medical seat here due to the NEET examination though he had

scored 97 per cent in the 12th standard examination and as he could not pay heavy fees.

The views expressed by the Union Government about the students who are facing great difficulties on account of inability to get out of Ukraine and anxiety about their dream of medical study, interviews of the Union Government Ministers and the tweets of Union Government supporters in the social media are all causing greater anguish. Abandoning this course, the Union Government should come to the mindset of implementing diligently the duty of saving every student, distressed and seized with the fear of death due to the Ukraine-Russia war.

This is not the time to campaign or advertise; this is the time to save the students struggling to save their lives and their future. I wish to remind you that this is a very crucial time and one must instill confidence in them and bring them back.

Instead, clashing interviews are given and viewpoints expressed in the public domain demeaning the enthusiasm of students who could not study here and tried to go abroad and study and the feelings of their parents who sold their properties/used up their savings to send their wards for higher education. It is a very important duty of the Prime Minister, who belongs to all, to warn Union Government Ministers and pro-BJP followers in social media to stop expressing such views and giving interviews.

The DMK is continuously raising its voice for the cancellation of the NEET examination to avert the danger of medical education going out of reach of the poor and marginalized people. Parties in Tamil Nadu uniformly support the scrapping of NEET. Thiru. Kumarasamy, former Chief Minister of Karnataka has also spoken stressing this view. Some other states also have started echoing the demand for NEET cancellation.

We are demanding the cancellation of the NEET examination, not only for the students of Tamil Nadu, but for all students nationwide. After I took over the office of Chief Minister, I circulated to state Chief Ministers a statement on the damage caused by the NEET examination and sought their support. This is the basis for the passing of the first 'NEET exemption' Bill in the Assembly and the present one that has been passed once again and sent to the President of India. This has been again borne out by the pathetic and pitiable conditions of students who had gone to Ukraine to study medicine; and even lost their lives.

At a time when the DMK and the Government of Tamil Nadu are fighting for the elimination of NEET examination and for selection to medical seats to be done based on the marks scored in school education, the Ukraine environment has brought up a strong reason additionally for the cancellation of NEET examination.

This is not the time to debate 'why they have gone to small countries like Ukraine for medical studies'. The immediate aim should be to safely bring back Ukraine students and the cancellation of the NEET examination that stands as a hurdle

for the inland study of medicine. The target is not far off. Let us jointly fight and succeed.

Consultation with high-level Government officers: The Hon'ble Chief Minister held consultation with high level officers of the Government at the Secretariat on 03.03.2022 over the steps taken from 24.02.2022 in respect of bringing back the students and emigrants of Tamil Nadu, stranded in Ukraine.

On instructions given by the Hon'ble Chief Minister earlier, contact officers were set up at the state and District levels and at New Delhi and emergency control rooms were put into operation to facilitate co-ordination. These control rooms have so far received 3,025 phone calls and 4,390 e-mails. Details about 2,223 students were compiled on the basis of information received at these centres and forwarded to the Union Government External Affairs Ministry with the request for early action to retrieve and bring them to their native places quickly. Further, through these students, the Government of Tamil Nadu has created contacts state-wise in Ukraine, ensuring the safety of students there. It is continuously taking measures to bring them back.

Committee of Tamil Nadu MPs set up: Following the Hon'ble Chief Minister's request to the Union Government to set up a co-ordination officer exclusively for Tamil Nadu for co-ordinating rescue-related works speedily with the Government of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.K.Rajaraman I.A.S., Secretary, Ministry of Communications, Union Government has been appointed as the co-ordination officer and rescue works have been expedited.

Till 6 a.m. on 03.03.2022, 193 students had returned and the Government of Tamil Nadu made due arrangements for them to reach their native Districts at the Government's expense.

For the immediate rescue of the remaining stranded Tamil Nadu students, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has given the following instructions to officers:

- As most of the students from Tamil Nadu stay in the eastern part of Ukraine, they can be brought through the Russian border. For this, Tamil Nadu officials should be in constant touch with the External Affairs Ministry and take appropriate steps.
- Officials should be in constant touch with Tamil Nadu students, inform them of the many measures taken for their rescue and guide them.
- Appropriate arrangements should be made for bringing immediately through special planes, Tamil Nadu students who have temporarily taken asylum in Ukraine's neighbouring countries of Hungary, Romania, Poland and Slovakia. To enable the quick return of Tamil students, Thiru. Tiruchi Siva, Thiru. Kalanidhi Veeraswamy and Thiru. M.M. Abdullah, Members of Parliament and Thiru. Dr. Rajaa MLA, have been directed to go to those countries, co-ordinate with Indian embassies there and take co-ordinated action .Four I.A.S. officers will also go along with these politicians, to take up co-ordination works.

Letter to the External Affairs Minister of the Union Government: The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin wrote another letter to the Hon'ble Union External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar on 03.03.2022 requesting initiation of appropriate measures by his ministry to quickly bring back the stranded Tamil Nadu students in Ukraine.

In his letter, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has recalled his telephonic talk with the Hon'ble Union External Affairs Minister on 28.02.2022 and thanked him for the speedy action on the

Tamil Nadu Government's request to appoint an exclusive co-ordinator for co-ordinating the works of rescuing students belonging to Tamil Nadu in Ukraine. He has said the Government of Tamil Nadu is in touch with the stranded students and their families in Ukraine through the control room set up by the Government and has shared details about them with the External Affairs Ministry and the Indian Embassy in Ukraine for bringing 2,223 students expeditiously to India.

He has stated that he appreciates the efforts put in by the Indian Government to rescue the stranded Indians and to take them back to India but at the same time he wishes to point out that only 193 students of Tamil Nadu have been facilitated to return to the motherland and requested the External Affairs Minister to pay special attention to increasing that number.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has also stated that he would like to bring to the attention of the Hon'ble Union External Affairs Minister the condition of the high number of stranded people in places like Kharkiv and Sumy on the eastern border of Ukraine, announced as the worst affected area, where they have taken shelter in bunkers and in Metro stations with the possibility of facing scarcity of food and water if the same situation continued. Hence, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has stated in his letter, alternative arrangements like taking the students through the Russian border could be considered and that this matter should be quickly taken to the attention of Russia.

In his letter, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has stated further that more than 1,000 students of Tamil Nadu have gone to Romania, Poland, Hungary and Slovakia from Ukraine and are waiting there for returning to India and that to ensure their safe and speedy return, the Government of Tamil Nadu has planned to dispatch 3 parliamentarians – Thiru. Tiruchi Siva, Dr. Kalanidhi Veeraswamy, Thiru. M.M. Abdullah, and a Legislator Dr. T.R.B. Rajaa along with 4 I.A.S. officers to the above-said countries for co-ordinating with the Indian embassies there and that the External Affairs Ministry of the Union Government should provide the necessary permissions.

The team members met the Hon'ble Union External Affairs Minister: As per the statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the team of parliamentarians, legislator and I.A.S., officers, headed by Thiru. Tiruchi Siva went to Delhi. The team members met the Hon'ble Union External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar at 11 a.m. on 05.03.2022 and requested him to arrange all measures for bringing the Tamils to their motherland.

Allotting Rs.3.50 crore towards rescue operations: The State Government passed an order on 05.03.2022 allotting Rs. 3.50 crore towards rescue operations of Tamils in Ukraine.

Special plane arranged to bring back students to Tamil Nadu: Thiru. Tiruchi Siva MP and leader of the rescue team held consultations with team members at Tamil Nadu Illam, New Delhi on 06.03.2022 on expediting the rescue operations. He also interacted with students who had arrived at New Delhi from Ukraine and

saw them off, presenting a bouquet, in a special plane arranged by the Government of Tamil Nadu .

Consultations with team members at New Delhi: After another round of consultations by the members of the Rescue Team on 07.03.2022, its leader Thiru. Tiruchi Siva said that steps have been taken to dispatch students coming from Ukraine to Tamil Nadu immediately, chartered planes have been arranged as per need. 1,196Students arriving at New Delhi are lodged in Tamil Nadu Illam, given food and provided all facilities.

Two hundred and fifty-five students have already arrived from Ukraine on their own expenses. Apart from them, air tickets for 136 students staying in Tamil Nadu Illam are now being arranged. Members of the special team learnt about the needs of the students staying in Tamil Nadu Illam from them. The students thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister for the arrangements made for them to go to Tamil Nadu.

Two hundred more students are expected to arrive from Ukraine. The Hon'ble Chief Minister has directed the rescue team to camp in New Delhi and keep watch till all students from Ukraine return to Tamil Nadu.

All students staying in Tamil Nadu Illam appreciated the Tamil Nadu Government's action and expressed their thanks.

Letter to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India: The Hon'ble Chief Minister had written a letter on 07.03.2022 to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, stressing on the need to take appropriate steps immediately to enable the medical students affected by the Russia-Ukraine war and returning to their motherland, to continue their education in India. In that letter, he has stated that while recognizing the Indian Government's efforts to retrieve and bring back thousands of stranded Indian students, he would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Prime Minister to the importance of removing the uncertainty likely to be faced by thousands of students in continuing their education.

More than 1,200 medical students have returned to Tamil Nadu so far after the outbreak of the war and the remaining students are also expected to return to India in the coming days, he has stated in the letter and pointed out that the present situation has ruined their studies and their future is in danger.

It is not practical for the medical students to return to their colleges and resume studies in the present abnormal situation in Ukraine and this uncertainty will continue even after the cessation of war till normalcy returns to the universities. So, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India should immediately intervene in this issue, pay special attention to it and take the matter to the National Medical Council and other connected ministries, he has said and requested directions to them to find out ways and means for students to continue their studies in medical colleges in India as an immediate solution. He has assured Tamil

Nadu Government's consistent support to all the efforts taken by the Indian Government in this respect.

Medicine students who got back conveyed their thanks heartily to the Hon'ble Chief Minister: Students from Tamil Nadu, studying medicine in Ukraine conveyed their thanks heartily to the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. M.K. Stalin for the steps he has taken on a war footing for their return.

While the Hon'ble Chief Minister was returning on 07.03.2022 to the Madurai airport after completing his inspection of the rectification works in areas damaged last year by the North East monsoon, in Kanniyakumari District, Ukraine medical students of Tamil Nadu, Selvi Nivedita, Selvi Divya Bharathi, Selvi Harini and Thiru. Navaneetha Sriram met him at Jothipuram, Tirunelveli District and conveyed their heart-felt gratitude to the Government of Tamil Nadu for taking steps to rescue them safely and help return to their motherland. They thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister for taking steps on a war footing to safely bring students of Tamil Nadu in Ukraine to Tamil Nadu, for the State Government bearing the travel expenses for their return to their motherland from Ukraine and for emphasizing to the Union Government to take immediate steps for the returnees to continue their studies in India. They said they had intended to meet the Hon'ble Chief Minister at Chennai and are happy to have met him now in person. The Hon'ble Chief Minister said all these were the duties of the Government and that as students they could contact him at any time for their needs, the Government would continue to help them and that they should remain confident.

Psychiatric Counselling for the students who returned from Ukraine: On the guidance of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare inaugurated on 09.03.2022 at the DMS campus, Chennai, psychiatric counselling will be given through the toll free phone '104' for the students who returned from Ukraine. On behalf of the Department of Health and Family Welfare, 20 psychiatrists will get in touch with 1,416 girl students and their parents and give counselling in respect of realizing their future dreams constructively.

Consultations with team members at New Delhi: The Rescue Team set up by the Hon'ble Chief Minister held consultations on 10.03.2022 at the Tamil Nadu Illam, New Delhi under the leadership of Thiru. Tiruchi Siva. The team met 6 medical students staying in Tamil Nadu Illam and enquired about the problems faced

by them in returning to their motherland. They explained in detail the measures taken by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and the Government of Tamil Nadu to rescue Tamil Nadu students. In one voice, all the students thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Rajya Sabha Member Thiru. Tiruchi Siva said: Six students have arrived at New Delhi. Including them, 1,464 students have come to New Delhi so far and are going to Tamil Nadu. Besides, without Government's support, 366 students have arrived on their own. Thirty-four students have stayed back on their own wish because of personal problems and their work schedule. Fifty-two students stranded in Sumy have reached Poland. After the announcement of the 'safe corridor', these students started on 09.03.2022 and reached Poland through buses and convoys. All the 52 students started from Poland on the night of 10.03.2022. On 11.03.2022, six hundred and seventy-two students are to arrive in Delhi in 3 planes. Of these, 57 students belong to Tamil Nadu. With the arrival of these students, the good news that 1,921 Tamil Nadu students who had gone to Ukraine for studies have safely returned, will reach us. Due to the efforts of Hon'ble Chief Minister the return of the students from Ukraine, contacts with embassies and the arrangement for the return by plane to Tamil Nadu have been achieved, he said.

The special team received the students from Sumy: On 11.03.2022, the special team under the leadership of Thiru. Tiruchi Siva received the students from Sumy in Ukraine, at New Delhi, made arrangements for their plane tickets, food etc., and sent them off to their native towns.

Hon'ble Chief Minister received students who had returned from Ukraine in the Airport: On 12.03.2022, Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. M.K. Stalin received 9 medical students who had returned from Ukraine, at the Chennai airport, and presented them bouquets.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates archaeological excavations in 7 places

To mark the starting of archaeological excavation works in 7 places scheduled for the year 2021-2022, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inaugurated through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 11.02.2022, works at two places - Keezhadi and its surrounding places of Konthagai, Agaram, Manaloor in Sivagangai District and at Gangaikonda Cholapuram-Maligaimedu in Ariyalur District.

The landscape of Tamil Nadu is very ancient. Proper excavations are necessary to establish scientifically the antiquity of the Tamil language and of Tamil culture.

The excavations undertaken recently at Keezhadi, Azhagankulam, Korkai, Sivakalai, Adichanallur, Kodumanal, Mayiladumparai and Gangaikonda Cholapuram have pushed the antiquity of Tamil Nadu, calculated through the modern methods, several centuries back.

It is planned to undertake excavations in sites of archaeological interest throughout Tamil Nadu ranging from prehistoric to historic period. Accordingly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced on 20.01.2022 that excavations would be taken up in 7 places to add glory to the ancient Tamil society's antiquity, culture and their excellence.

The places to be excavated are:

- Keezhadi and surrounding places (Konthagai, Agaram, Manalur)- Sivagangai District - 8th stage;
- Sivakalai, Thoothukudi District – 3rd stage;
- Gangaikonda Cholapuram, Ariyalur District – 2nd stage;
- Mayiladumpaarai, Krishnagiri District – 2nd stage;
- Vembakkottai, Virudhunagar District – 1st stage;
- Thulukkarpatti, Tirunelveli District – 1st stage; and
- Perumpalai, Dharmapuri District- 1st stage.

Keezhadi: The 8th stage of excavation will be a continuation of the brick structures so far found out, a search for rare antiques that will testify to the presence of highly civilized people and evidence for inland and overseas trade and to expose the various sections of urban civilization.

Sivakalai: Excavation will try to unearth additional evidence to

establish firmly that the high culture of the Tamil society that lived on the banks of Thamirabarani river is anterior to 3,200 years.

Mayiladumparai: The antiques found in Mayiladumparai excavation, Krishnagiri District were found in towns like Varattanapalli and Kappalavadi. The present excavation will turn out to be evidence to prove that the New Stone age people had taken up agricultural activities in Tamil Nadu even prior to 4,000 years.

Gangaikonda Cholapuram: This excavation aims at knowing the design of the palace by exposing the contours of Gangaikonda Chozhapuram City, the capital of Emperor Rajendran I of Chola dynasty, and other buried structures.

Thulukkarpatti: This town is located on the left bank of Nambi river, 6 km south east of Valliyur, Tirunelveli District. 'Vazhviyal Medu' is situated from this town at a distance of 2.5 km on the road that leads to Kannanallur. This excavation aims at finding how this fertile archaeological site came up, how people got settled and the nature of the antiques. The other purpose is to search for the roots of the Iron Age culture along the Nambi river banks.

Vembakottai: Vembakottai is situated on the left bank of Vaippar river that flows south of Sivakasi in Virudhunagar District 15 kms away. The 25-acre archaeological site, called 'Medu' and 'Ucchi medu' exhibits signs of continuous human living from microlithic age to the Middle Age. The purpose of the excavation is collection of microlithic tools in large numbers against the background of geological changes that took place continuously.

Perumbalai: This historic Perumpalai is situated on the left bank of Palar, 25 km from Pennagaram on the Pennagaram-Melacheri road, Dharmapuri District. This is considered, for ages together, as the northern boundary of Kongu Nadu. The 'Vaazhvida Medu' here is 3 to 4 metres higher than the ground level and extends to 75 acres. The purpose of the excavation is to find the roots of the Iron Age culture on Palaru banks. Evidence on a large-scale is needed to compile and write the ancient history of this 15-lakh-year old landscape. The history that is written should have scientific evidence. Excavations are a must to fill up historical gaps. Researchers were of the view that the historic period started in 6th century B.C. in the Gangetic plains and that no such evidence was found in South India. But the Keezhadi excavation has established that not only such an urban civilization as found in Gangetic plains prevailed in 6th century B.C. but people in that Age knew reading and writing. The Thamirabarani riverine civilization has been established as older than 3,200 years through the husk removed paddy grains obtained in the Sivakalai excavation. The Department of archaeology of Government of Tamil Nadu will undertake excavations in new places like Thulukkarpatti (Tirunelveli District), Vembakkottai (Virudhunagar) and Perumbalai (Dharmapuri) besides the ones it has already started, for strengthening these findings.

In the current financial year, the above stated 7 archaeological excavations, 2 field surveys and pre-land survey works to identify the Korkai harbour of Sangam Age will be undertaken at a cost of Rs. 5 crore.

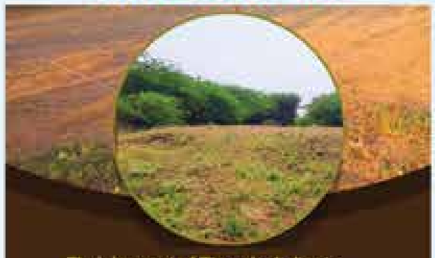
Ongoing Archaeological Excavations

Third phase of Excavations at Sivagalai of Tuticorin district

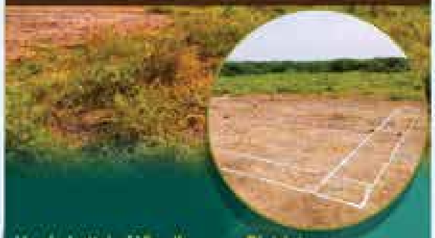
Second phase of excavations at Mayiladumparai of Krishnagiri district.

Second phase of excavations at Gangaikonda Cholapuram of Ariyalur district

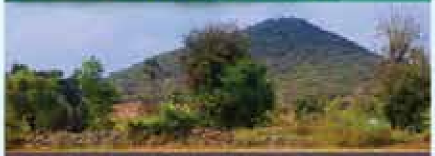
New Excavations



Thulukarpatti of Tirunelveli district



Vembakottai of Virudhunagar District



Perumbalai of Dharampuri District

CHENNAI BOOK FAIR

Inaugural speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** at the 45th Chennai Book Fair at the Y.M.C.A. Physical Education College Grounds on 16.02.2022 *(English Translation)*.

Hon'ble School Education Minister, younger brother Anbil Mahesh Poyyamozhi who has given a special address at this inaugural of the 45th Chennai Book Fair, Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare Thiru. Ma. Subramanian, President, Booksellers and Publishers Association of South India (BAPASI) Thiru. S. Vairavan, Secretary Thiru. S.K. Murugesan, various office bearers of BAPASI, Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation and my dear Thiru. Dindigul Leoni, Rajya Sabha member and dear brother Thiru. T.K.S. Elangovan, Awardees, Publishers, Booksellers, Authors and Book enthusiasts, Elders, Ladies and Media friends – I wish to happily convey my evening greetings to all of you.

For the last 45 years, this Chennai Book Fair has been conducted as a happy event, not only for Chennai but to the people in many Districts in Tamil Nadu, to all those belonging to the intellectual world of Tamil books throughout this globe.

This event should have taken place on January 6 last. But due to the then prevailing situation- spread of the Corona virus – the Government was forced to impose many rules and controls. We mentioned about postponing the book fair. The executives of BAPASI, despite the eager expectation of publishers, the erection of the auditorium done already for the event, the various expenditures incurred and the difficulties that would ensue after the postponement of the book exhibition, wholeheartedly accepted this Government's decision not to ignore the Corona spread and postponed the event. I am duty-bound to first express my thanks, on behalf of the Government, to the BAPASI association.

As in Chennai, BAPASI has been conducting this event in Madurai for 14 years and in Coimbatore for 4 years. To conduct similar events in the rest of the Districts our Government will certainly advise the respective administrations to extend help and take appropriate measures.

The setting up of a huge library in Chennai was announced by our former Chief Minister Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar when he inaugurated this book fair in 2007. That was the library – the Anna Centenary Library- that we see today.

The present Government of Tamil Nadu has started work to set up a similar huge library at Madurai in the name of Muthamizh Arignar Thalaivar Kalaignar at a cost of Rs. 114 crore. A gigantic library will come up in Madurai shortly.

This Government is eager to raise such temples of intelligence. The Dravidian Movement is nothing but a movement for wisdom. It is the Dravidian movement that has inculcated self respect and rationalism in Tamil Society which had been enslaved for centuries.

You would have noticed one thing. The name of the headquarters of DMK is Anna Arivalayam. Before that building was constructed, the headquarters was functioning from Royapuram ‘Arivagam’.

It is the Dravidian movement that brought out books for the oppressed and depressed people, campaigned for self respect and brought about an intellectual revolution.

Thanthai Periyar said: “My books are my heirs”.

“Let every house have a library,” said Perarignar Anna. Understand the world through books – ordered our Muthamizh Arignar Thalaivar Kalaignar. This Stalin Government, nay, our Government is functioning on the same lines.

Knowledge of the Tamil language has been made compulsory for those seeking employment in Government.

Our Government has made Tamil Language paper as an eligibility test for all the competitive examinations for Government jobs, conducted by all recruitment agencies in Tamil Nadu and in the written examinations conducted by appointing officers.

As for the Recruitment Boards in the State, inclusive of Teachers Recruitment Board, Medical Services Recruitment Board and Tamil Nadu Uniformed Services Recruitment Board, a Tamil language eligibility examination will certainly be conducted.

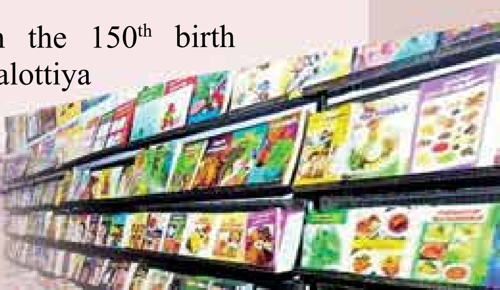
Mother tongue Tamil has started echoing in temples; I have released the logo for the scheme ‘Annai Thamizhil Archanai’ (Pooja in Tamil) and books for performing devotional rituals in temples in Tamil.

The Government is encouraging its employees in Districts to sign in the Tamil language and prepare files wholly in Tamil.

When K. Rajanarayanan, the doyen of ‘karisal’ literature and ‘Senthamizh Andhanar’ Madurai R. Elankumaranar died, Government honours were given to them.

In the last 37 years, the books of 165 Tamil scholars have been nationalized; of these, books of 148 persons were nationalized by the DMK regime. In the last 8 months, books of 7 Tamil scholars have been nationalized. Their families have shared Rs.80 lakh.

In connection with the 150th birth anniversary of ‘Kappalottiya Thamizhar’ V.O.



Chidambaranar, we have published his books in two huge volumes through the Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation.

❖ The Government has issued orders for organizing literary meetings during the birth anniversaries of Tamil scholars and authors. We have planned to print and publish Sangam Literary works at low prices.

❖ A Dravidian encyclopedia comprising the history of the Dravidian movement, its policies and research articles on its ideology is to be published.

❖ Manonmaniam Sundaranar's song hailing Mother Tamil has been declared as State Song.

❖ The 'Kalaignar Ezhudhukol' award with a prize money of Rs. 5 lakh will be given to the best journalist.

❖ I have made 13 important announcements by way of honouring Mahakavi Bharathi in connection with his death centenary.

❖ The Medavakkam-Sholinganallur link road on which the Central Institute of Classical Tamil is located has been re-named as 'Semmozhi Salai'.

❖ Steps are being taken to create chairs for 'Classical Tamil' in 5 universities in South Asian countries in the first phase by way of spreading the greatness of the classical language all over the world.

❖ Rs. One crore allotment has been made through the Tamil Nadu Textbook and Education Services Corporation for the purchase of different booklets on art, literature, computer Tamil and environment for public libraries.

❖ Likewise, Rs. 2,00,35,181 has been provided from the said Corporation for purchase of more than 60 English magazines for various libraries, notably to be useful for political and social activists, those writing competitive examinations and for children.

❖ Similar to the 'Kalaimamani' award given to the best artistes in fields of letters, music and drama, an 'Ilakkiyamamani' award with a prize money of Rs. One lakh is proposed to be given for Tamil authors.

❖ I have made an announcement in connection with the 98th birth anniversary of Muthamizh Arignar Thalaivar Kalaignar.

❖ Providing a house to authors who have received the highest awards, a 'dream house scheme'. Under this scheme, a house in the Tamil Nadu Housing Board's High Income Group category will be allotted to them. Alternatively, a house will be constructed on 1,500 sq. ft. in a plot of 5 cents in the District of their choice and given to them. I can go on in this vein; if I start covering the Departments of school education, higher education, Tamil Development, Public, it will take a long time.

To mention the important ones, books in Tamil, will be translated into English and other Dravidian languages. Under the scheme 'Thisaithorum Dravidam', I have released 6 books now. The people's epic 'Silapathikaram' of Ilango Adigal, a compilation of short stories written by the best Dalit writers, short stories of Thoppil Mohamed Meeran, 'Kadhavilasam', authored by S. Ramakrishnan which introduces 50 short story writers and the book 'Putham Veedu' (New House), authored by Hepsiba Jesudasan, a notable novelist have been translated into English and published.

Under the 'Muthamizh Arignar Translation Scheme', Robert Caldwell's book 'A comparative grammar of the Dravidian or South Indian family of Languages' translated

by Pa.Ra. Subramaniam has been released today as a joint publication of the Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation and the International Institute of Tamil Studies. I am very proud and happy at the release of this book.

The achievement of this Government is that it is a Tamil regime, a regime for Tamil Nadu and a regime for the people of Tamil Nadu. In a word, it is Dravidian Rule.

In 2017, When I became the Acting President of the DMK, I requested presentation of books to me in public events rather than Ponnadais and bouquets. I am happy that the habit of presenting books is spreading among those who call on me and when I attend various events.

I have presented more than one-and-a-half lakh books gifted to me to libraries in Jaffna, Sri Lanka and in western countries as well as to many small libraries in our Districts.

I receive letters continuously from libraries and I can feel the great extent to which intellectual development has taken place in Tamil Nadu.

I am really happy that I too am a catalyst in this regard.

With this joy, I wish to make an announcement now. I have made arrangements for the release of the first part of my book ‘Ungalil Oruvan’ (One among You) by the end of this month. In this autobiography, I have recorded my life journey in the first 23 years from my school days to the beginning of the MISA period covering my college days, interest in politics, the first meeting I organized, my maiden speech in that meeting, my film world experience and marriage.

In the first part, I have covered up to 1976. Soon, it will come to the book fair also for sale. So, as an author too I have participated in this event.

At this inauguration of the 45th Book Fair, I am proud to present the ‘Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar Porkizhi Award to journalist Samas, Prasanna Ramasamy, Asaithambi, Vennila, Paul Zacharia and Meena Kandasamy. I congratulate you all.

Likewise my congratulations to the BAPASI awardees Meenakshi Somasundaram, Ravi Thamizhvanan, Ponnazhagu, Thiruvai Babu, Dr. Devira and dear public speaker Bharathi Baskar.

In 2007, when our Muthamizh Arignar Thalaivar Kalaignar came to inaugurate this Book Fair, one of the speakers, author Prapanchan mentioned: “Chief Minister’s arrival will not go without an announcement”. Pointing this out, our Chief Minister Kalaignar responded saying, “We should not allow an author’s statement to go in vain”, and made an announcement and donated Rs. One crore to BAPASI from his own funds enabling us to conduct this event with ‘Porkhizhi’ presentations.

In a similar manner, I too came here with the desire to make an announcement; but you know the regulations during the urban local body election and as such I cannot make an announcement now. You have waited so long; wait for 2 more days. I will make a good announcement shortly.

Let us have more and more such Book Fairs! Let the reading habit grow! Let the light of Wisdom spread all over the world.

I take leave of you wishing wholeheartedly, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu and on my own behalf, that this Book Fair should function in an excellent manner while observing the Government’s Corona regulations.

Hon'ble Chief Minister presents medicine kit to 50th lakh beneficiary under 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' scheme

Crossing of the 50 lakh mark in the number of beneficiaries under the 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' scheme was celebrated at an event at Chitlapakkam, Chengalpattu District on 23.02.2022 with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** presenting a medicine kit to a beneficiary and distributing such kits to 5 more beneficiaries at their houses. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also observed the physiotherapy treatment given to the beneficiary at the event.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the scheme on 05.08.2021 at Samanapalli village in Krishnagiri District at a cost of Rs. 258 crore, by presenting the medicine kit to the first beneficiary.

The scheme is designed to control maladies caused by non-communicable diseases to patients in their own homes through field workers. The scheme has in its ambit distribution of necessary medicines to the 45 plus age group people under treatment for high blood pressure and other ailments, illness-specific supportive services, physiotherapy medical services, maintenance of renal patients, recommendation for essential medical services, identifying and informing in-born defects in children and recommending scan for cervical and breast cancer in women and other health services needed in a family.

The scheme was implemented in 50 Taluks in the first phase. It was gradually extended and today it benefits people in all regions such as from villages to Municipal Corporation areas, through the services provided by field workers such as women health volunteers, mid-level health providers and palliative nurses. Under the scheme, 10,969 women health volunteers,

vehicles, 4 will be assigned for the benefit of the people in hill regions and will be operated at Ooty, Valparai, Arasur (Pollachi) and Mottampatti (Kallakurichi).

The 188 additional emergency vehicles in the fleet will cater to the needs of more people and reduce the waiting time for the ambulance and the transit time to the hospital.

385 physiotherapists, 385 palliative nurses and 4,848 mid-level health providers are functioning as field workers. Besides, 2,432 nurses are functioning in Government Hospitals, ready to rush to the residence of the patient ('Nurse at your doorstep') and provide continuous service for non-communicable diseases to recommended afflicted persons identified at the field level apart from their regular service. Another speciality of the scheme is constant monitoring of the beneficiary through registering them in the people welfare register.

The '108' Ambulance service:

The '108' emergency ambulance service scheme that saves human lives was inaugurated by former Chief Minister Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar in 2008. People make use of the scheme through the toll free phone number '108'. The scheme is implemented with a fleet of 1,303 vehicles.

To reduce delay and expedite these services further, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin inducted 188 more emergency vehicles to the fleet and inaugurated their services by flagging them off. Of these

The Hon'ble Chief Minister interacted with the beneficiaries of the schemes 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' and 'Innuyir Kappom – Nammai Kakkum 48 ('Let us Protect Lives – 48 that saves us'.) He spoke to a school student with kidney failure, Selvan Pavin of Nangudi Village, Cuddalore District who is getting sachets daily under the scheme 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' for home dialysis.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed, under the Comprehensive Chief Minister Medical Insurance Scheme, modern,prosthetic legs to Selvi Sangeetha and Thiru. Mohammed Sheik Abdullah who had lost their legs in accidents.

Inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 18.12.2021, the scheme 'Innuyir Kappom – Nammai Kakkum 48', gives greater importance to treatment in the first 48 hours to patients of road accidents. Under the scheme, the State Government will bear the treatment charges incurred in those hours.

From 18.12.2021 till date, a total of 21,762 persons injured in road accidents have been rushed to hospitals in ambulance vehicles, saved and benefited – 18,730 in Government hospitals and 3,032 in private hospitals.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister interacted with the beneficiaries of this scheme. Speaking to a college student, Thiru.Mohankumar who sustained severe injuries in a two-wheeler accident in Coimbatore, underwent intensive surgery for several hours and recovered, the Hon'ble Chief Minister enquired about the details of the treatment and listened to it with care. The student expressed his gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister. "It is our duty to provide all types of help to people", he replied.

Hon'ble Chief Minister lauds students for innovations in assistive devices for the differently abled

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** while inaugurating the 'Societal Beneficial Innovation Scheme' of Meenakshi Sundararajan Engineering College, Kodambakkam, Chennai, on 26.02.2022 *(English Translation).*

Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education Dr.K. Ponmudy who has delivered the felicitation address at this excellent event of inauguration of the Meenakshi Sundararajan Engineering College's Innovation scheme for distributing to beneficiaries. assistive devices based on the innovations of students, Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare and dear friend Ma.Subramanian, Members of the Legislative Assembly Dr. Ezhilan, Thiru.Velu, Thiru. Karunanidhi, Secretary of this college Dr. K.S.Babai who welcomed the gathering, Director Thiru. N. Srikanth who has delivered a speech explaining the scheme, Thiru. Nalli Kuppusamy Chettiar, in whose presence this event is being held and the Principal of the college Dr. K.S. Lakshmi, Elders and Ladies, students of the college, beneficiaries of the scheme and my dear media friends – my affectionate respects to all of you.

I am happy to learn that Meenakshi College for Women is one of the renowned colleges in Chennai. My visit to this campus of K.R.S. Educational group that comprises the colleges for women, Engineering and Management has given me an opportunity to meet you all, to know of your good schemes and to share some of my views with you. I am happy over this. I wish to convey my thanks and respects to the executives of the college for giving this opportunity to me. This Meenakshi College has historic significance. It was started in 1947 by Kodaganallur Ramaswamy Sundararajan, affectionately known as KRS by all. He was born in the village Kodaganallur in Tirunelveli District. Engineering colleges were few in number in those days in India. That was a period when the right to education was denied to a majority of people in the Country and many could not get even primary education. Great social revolutionaries were opening up the doors of education to the poor. Graduation in engineering was a dream even for the few who had the opportunity to go for higher education. In such an atmosphere, this college was started to provide higher education in engineering for those who wished for it.

In the International Women's Year of 1975, Meenakshi College for Women was started. It is a matter of pride that Dr. K.S. Lakshmi is now running the college with administrative acumen. She has made this college a premier engineering college with the excellent contribution of Dr. K.S. Babai, daughter of KRS. I convey my greetings and congratulations for this.

This educational institution was started with the purpose of making engineering education easily available. You should not forget that with the same aim Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar abolished the entrance examination which stood in the way for students getting engineering education. This is history.

Today, the situation has changed to such an extent that there is an engineer in every house. The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's stand is that our Tamil Nadu students should have easy access to all courses of study, not merely engineering. The stand of the present Government, I will not say my Government, it is our Government – is also the same.

That is why we are fighting for exemption from the 'NEET' examination which is a hurdle for our poor and down-trodden rural students in getting medical education. Today we are waging a court battle in this regard. Students are the great resource of the Country. The doors of education should not be shut on them on any account.

Tamil Nadu has an abundance of educated youth. It is a matter of pride that more than 30 of the 100 very important educational institutions in India are in Tamil Nadu. The Union Government's rank list, released recently reveals this. There is no comparison between Tamil Nadu and other states in schools, higher secondary schools, colleges, universities and international research institutes. This is also a matter of pride for Tamil Nadu.

The youth of Tamil Nadu are in jobs all over the world. They are in high positions also. All of them rose higher in life due to the higher education in Tamil Nadu. We should raise the standard of education even more.

There should be more research, experiments and inventions. We should introduce in our colleges and universities the new courses and degrees available in overseas countries. I made a particular mention of this at an event at Anna University on 25th last month. In this college, you have created this scheme – "inventions for Community Development."

This scheme aims at fulfilling the needs and improving the standard of living of differently abled persons, economically weaker sections and women affected due to various causes.

This scheme will certainly help students understand the needs of society even while studying; it will help them identify their own inventiveness, technological and creative skills with the support of professors, library and laboratory.

It will help find solutions through modern technology to the problems of down-trodden people. I saw the assistive devices created by students of this college as the initial products of this scheme. They are simple, use the best technology and are economical in price. With an open heart I congratulate these students and wish that they should invent many more such devices that are useful to ordinary people.

I am really proud to dedicate these inventions to the people. If Thalaivar Kalaignar was alive today and had seen these devices, he would have also congratulated and blessed them. He was the person who created an exclusive Department to meet the needs of the differently abled persons in the Country ; he kept that Department under his direct control. I too, am keeping that Department under my direct control.

Though these inventions are small, the humanity with which they have been made is big. I congratulate all the professors, the college principal and the secretary who are supportive of this societal beneficial innovation scheme of the college.

"The fame that Tamil Nadu excels in education is not enough for us. We should get the title that Tamil Nadu is the best in higher education and in research" - conveying this wish of mine, I invite you all to join the journey towards that goal. I thank those running this college for providing me a good opportunity to meet you all. In a gathering of students there will be some commotion here and there. But the discipline students have observed here is testimony to the discipline with which this college is functioning. I take leave of you asking you to maintain this discipline and perform your duty and saying that victory will surely be ours.

Tripartite Review Meeting

Hon'ble Minister for Information & Publicity Thiru. M.P. Saminathan presided over the tripartite review meeting regarding the VPF (Virtual Print Fees) collected in theatres. During the review meeting, the Secretary to Government, Tamil Development and Information Department, Thiru. Mahesan Kasirajan, I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations Dr. V.P. Jeyaseelan, I.A.S., were present along with the office-bearers of the Tamil Film Producers Council, the Tamil Film Active Producers Association, and digital service providers such as Qube, VHF and UFO, at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai on 05.03.2022.

Hon’ble Chief Minister administers Polio drops to children; camps being held in 43,051 centres

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** inaugurated an intensified pulse polio camp at Alwarpet, Chennai, on behalf of the Health and Family Welfare Department, by administering polio drops to children on 27.02.2022.

Under the State’s Immunization Scheme, 11 vaccines are administered to pregnant women and children to protect them against 12 types of diseases. The State has been free from Polio attacks since 2004, while the Country has been free from it from 2014. For the present situation to continue, 27th intensified pulse polio campaign is being organized this year throughout the State.

Hon’ble Minister of Information and Publicity Thiru. M.P. Saminathan inaugurated an Intensified Pulse Polio camp at the Primary Health Centre at Savadipalayam in Tiruppur District on 27.02.2022.

The camp is being held in 43,051 centres, including in all Primary Health Centres, Government Hospitals, Anganwadi Centres, Nutritious Meals Centres, Schools and in important landmarks. In these centres, 57.61 lakh children in the age group of 0 to 5 years (including children within 6 years) were given the drops.

The Intensified Pulse Polio Camps, following Covid 19 guidelines, were organized in important bus stands, railway stations, airports and wayside centres, where children were administered the drops. Again through mobile groups, children at far off and inaccessible places were administered the drops. About 2 lakh-and-odd health service personnel, Anganwadi employees, teachers and volunteers were involved in the massive immunization camp.

March 3: World Hearing Day

'Listen safely, protect hearing capacity for life'

Saint Thiruvalluvar asserts that the wealth acquired through hearing is the greatest wealth one can gain ("Selvathul selvam sevichelvam acchelvam selvathul ellaam thalai"). Awareness has to be created about the importance of the hearing faculty.

The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Government is a Government for all people, including the marginalized sections of society. The unparalleled leader, Muthamizh Arignar Dr.Kalaignar, taking into consideration the welfare of such people, extended them assistance for 'Cochlear Implant Treatment'. I remember that this was fondly referred to by famous ENT surgeon, Dr. Mohan Kameswaran when doctors paid tribute to Dr.Kalaignar.

World Hearing Day reminds us that we should cultivate awareness about the newer and newer sound devices that we have begun to use. We should give patient hearing to the warnings given by doctors and scientists that the nerves of the ear will be greatly affected if students and youth continue to hear the high decibel sound from audio gadgets for a long time.

On this day, I appeal to people to exercise care about what they hear and carefully protect their hearing for life. When taking rest, spend time with nature. Please keep away from high decibel sound equipment. Do simple exercises. Face the future with good health and enthusiasm.

-Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Thiru M.K.Stalin

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens Eco Park formed by reclaiming mined-out land at Pandhalkudi

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, declared open an Eco Park of Ramco Cements at Pandhalkudi in Virudhunagar District, on 06.03.2022. The park spreads over an area of 72 acres and has been formed at a cost of Rs. 5.20 crore by reclaiming and rehabilitating mined-out land.

The eco restoration park is meant to create a natural self-sustaining eco system that supports local bio-diversity as well as to establish an environmental educational centre and recreation area that caters to school children and visitors. The programme covers an area of 40 acre by landscaping the mined-out land and terracing the dump. This area will be the hub for the whole project with an environment centre surrounded by ornamental gardens with native species and drought-tolerant plants.

About one lakh saplings covering 200 species, with 15 indigenous varieties like different types of Neem, Peepal, Pungam, Mahilam, Guava, Elanthai, Neermaruthu, Konavel, Karuvelam, Red Sanders, Manjanathi, Nochi, Avarai, bush plants, creepers, and medicinal plants have been planted in this park. So far, 2.50 lakh saplings and bush plants have been planted. A rockery garden has been created with waste stones and boulders in the quarry.

The project will create diverse forest areas with plant species that facilitate local species of birds, insects small animals

rocks. They will understand how the reclaimed and afforested mined-out areas attract small animals, bees, beetles, butterflies, ants and termites, how all this helps protect the environment and how they are useful to farmers.

and reptiles to thrive. The eco park has separate divisions including waterways, shrubs, pasture and stone park.

By visiting the park, students and members of the public will be able to understand the benefits of native trees, develop awareness about minerals and learn scientific facts about

The park will help the younger generation know about conservation of rain water in used mines and its benefits, and how to prepare green fertilizers and grow trees. The afforestation programme plans to plant about 5 lakh native trees in about 400 acres of land by the end of the year 2023. ●

MoU signed with British Council for improving English training of youth

In the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** and the British High Commissioner Mr. Alex Ellis, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation and the British Council at the Secretariat on 08.03.2022.

On 01.03.2022, the Hon'ble Chief Minister launched 'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme to help school and college students and youth through skill development. As an extension of the programme, the MoU has been signed to enable students to speak and write English fluently and also to equip them for interviews and to hone their individual skills.

This Memorandum of Understanding is being signed to increase opportunities of achieving the intellectual objectives and economic growth of Tamil Nadu, by giving skill training to youth so that they can go without hindrance to any part of the world by learning the English language, and to strengthen their education and culture.

In co-ordination with the reputed universities and educational institutions in England, separate syllabus will be developed to train the trainers, which will improve the various skills of the youth. This Memorandum of Understanding will strengthen higher education, skill development, art and culture of the youth.

The MoU will pave the way for co-ordination between the British Council and the Government of Tamil Nadu in improving the professional competence of students.

News in Picture

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** handed over appointment orders to 6 persons as a mark of distributing appointment orders for the posts of 15 Assistant Planning Organizers and 13 Planning Assistants grade-I in the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority, at the Secretariat on 08.03.2022.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates innovative Floating Solar Water Plant

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** inaugurated a Floating Solar Power Plant in the SPIC Complex, Thoothukudi, on 07.03.2022. The power plant, with an annual capacity of 42.0 million units of power, has been set up on the big reservoir in the SPIC Complex, at a cost of Rs. 150.40 crore. The power plant has been designed so as to make use of its power by SPIC's own industrial units.

This new 25.3 MW DC/22 MW AC capacity floating power plant, has been set with modern evergreen sustainable power generation with ESG technique. The power plant, apart from producing higher yield than the traditional land-based solar plants, saves water from getting evaporated. The power produced in this Floating Power Plant is utilized for SPIC and for the production of Greenstar fertilizer.

The plant would generate more energy as water facilitates a cooling effect leading to a higher yield. It also helps the environment by curbing water evaporation in the reservoir by 60 per cent. This floating power is a milestone in solar power generation.

The plant is a welcome move towards industries in the State using renewable energy sources. Innovations like this are milestones towards achieving the goal of making Tamil Nadu a leader in renewable energy production.

Hon'ble Chief Minister lays foundation stone for International Furniture Park at Thoothukudi

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, laid the foundation stone for an International Furniture Park, to be set up on 1,156 acres in Thoothukudi on 07.03.2022. On the occasion, 33 Memorandum of Understanding were also signed for an investment of Rs. 4,755 crore, which will create employment opportunities for 17,476 persons.

The International Furniture Park:

The International Furniture Park of international standard has been conceived by the Government of Tamil Nadu and is to come up at Meelavittan and South Veerapandiapuram Villages in Thoothukudi District, about 13 km from the Thoothukudi Port, close to the National Highway on a 1,156 acre site.

The park will create a conducive atmosphere for meeting the 70 to 80 per cent demand of the raw material, reduce production cost and increase the competitiveness of the State. The park will function exclusively on solar energy, meet environmental requirements with waste collection and disposal facilities. It will be developed on cent per cent green concepts.

The first phase of the park will be fully operational in 4 to 5 years, attracting an investment of Rs. 1,500 to Rs.1,800 crore and creating employment for 1.5 lakh people.

The second phase will be fully operational in 8 to 10 years, with an investment of Rs. 3,500 crore to 4,500 crore, with employment potential for 3 lakh to 3.50 lakh people.

Memoranda of Understanding:

Eight Memoranda of Understanding were signed in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, with companies which have come forward for setting up the schemes.

Hettich India Pvt Ltd, Deceuninck Profiles, Manor and Mews, New Century Sofa India, Vikas Exports, Dileep Industries Ind, Marque Impex and Borotik, which will manufacture wood and leather furniture, with an investment of Rs.2,845 crore, providing employment to 11,450 persons.

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over land allotment to two units - M/s. Hettich India Pvt Ltd., and M/s. Deceuninck Profiles India Pvt Ltd., for setting up their units in the International Furniture Park.

Industries Department based MoUs:

Six MoUs were signed with industrial units in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister for an investment of Rs. 1,643 crore, facilitating employment opportunities to 3,653 persons. These units will set up food processing, textile and garment manufacturing,

fertilizer and chemical manufacture units in Thoothukudi, Theni, Dindigul, Virudhunagar and Tirunelveli Districts.

Industries Department based MoUs: L.S.Mills for textile production in Theni, Dindigul,Virudhunagar, and Tiruppur, Fishin India for setting up sea-food processing units in Tirunelveli, Gangaikondan, Silverline Industries for manufacturing fertilizer and sulphuric acid production in Thoothukudi and Chennai, Kartya Textiles for textile production in Virudhunagar and Kasim Textiles Mills for textile production in Virudhunagar.

19 MoUs on behalf of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Department:

On behalf of the Micro, small and medium industries, MoUs have been signed with 19 firms for an investment of Rs. 267 crore, to provide employment to 2,373 persons.

These investments are for setting up units in Thoothukudi, Tirunelveli, Virudhunagar, Ramanathapuram, Madurai, Dindigul and Sivagangai, for food processing, glass manufacture, furniture, fertilizer and medical equipment units.

In Thoothukudi, M/s Sakthi Fly Ash Bricks, M/s. Viva Frozen Foods, M/s Shaleo Marine Foods M/s.Santhanam Packaging (P) Ltd, M/s. VAINI Fly Ash Brick ;

In Tirunelveli M/s.Vinayaga Glass Industries, M/s. Jayam Marine (P) Ltd and M/s. Aditi Infrastructure Developers; in Virudhunagar M/s. Sivasakthi Paper and Boards, M/s. Jayskay Group of Companies and M/s Dharmarthina Textile Pvt Ltd; in Ramanathapuram M/s.Kathiravan Solar Project; in Madurai M/s. Ergoline India Pvt Ltd, M/s. Lalitha Devi Modern Rice Mills and M/s. Satyam Biotech ; in Dindigul, M/s.Desikanathar Textiles(P)Ltd, M/s Latrile Gloves (P) Ltd., In Thoothukudi, M/s Sakthi Fly, M/s. DeltaStar Power Projects Services Ltd; in Sivagangai, M/s. Victus Apparel (P)Ltd.

Totally, through 33 schemes, an investment of Rs. 4,755 crore will be received providing employment opportunities to 17,476 persons.

New Internet site for Guidance bureau:

The Hon'ble Chief Minister launched a new online site (www.investingintamilnadu.com) which will have all the details about all sectors, including the growing ones, clearance required for starting units in Tamil Nadu, agreements and guidelines. This integrated and artificial intelligent technical site will be useful for the investors to clear their industry related doubts.

Tamil Nadu Land Information Site:

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also launched an online site (www.tnlip.com) and this site will act as a bridge between the buyers and the sellers of the lands in the State. Those who are having large tracts of land, may register on the site. Similarly those who require land may also register their needs in this site. The genuineness of land availability,

location of the lands etc, can be verified through legal advisors.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, after laying the foundation stone for the International Furniture Park *(English Translation)*:

Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Thiru. Thangam Thenarasu, Hon'ble Minister for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Thiru. T.M.Anbarasan, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment, Tmt. P. Geetha Jeevan, Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries - Fishermen Welfare and Animal Husbandry Thiru. Anitha Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management Thiru. K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran, Thoothukudi M.P. and my dear sister Tmt. Kanimozhi, MLAs Thiru. Shanmugam, Markendeyan, and Oorvasi Amirtharaj, Hon'ble Mayor of Thoothukudi Corporation Thiru. Jegan and Respectable Deputy Mayor of Thoothukudi Jenitta, Additional Chief Secretary of the Industries Department Thiru. S. Krishnan I.A.S., Industrial Guidance and Export Promotion Bureau Managing Director Tmt. Pooja Kulkarni I.A.S., Commissioner of Industries and Commerce Tmt. Sigy Thomas Vaidhyan I.A.S., District Collector Thiru. Nishant Krishna I.A.S., Union Government's INSPACE Chairman SCALE Committee Thiru. Pawan Goenka, Thiru. Venketrama Raja of Ramco Cements, entrepreneurs, friends from the visual and print media,

At the outset, I extend my warm greetings to all of you.

Ten months have been completed after the change of Government in the State and the 11th month has started. On this occasion you have given me an opportunity to participate in this function, for which I am thankful to you.

Right from the date of taking charge of the new Government or to say precisely even while the results of the Assembly elections started coming, we started our work. You all know how we have been functioning for the past 10 months for the development and growth of the State.

Every day, we are inaugurating a new scheme or making a new announcement, besides distributing welfare schemes for the benefit of the people. We have been inaugurating a new venture every day to provide employment to the youth of the State.

'Go to the people and live among them' is the slogan of our mentor Perarignar Thiru. Anna. Taking his message as our mantra, we are performing our duties. We have been instructing our Ministers, MLAs, MPs, local body representatives and office-bearers of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, and insisting that they perform in a similar manner.

We convened the Cabinet meeting the day before yesterday. We are going to submit the annual budget in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly

soon. At the Cabinet meeting we discussed the proposals in the budget.

Before the meeting, we discussed with trade representatives, farmers and industrialists and had detailed discussions with them on how the budget should be. We are trying to incorporate their suggestions and views in the budget. That is how the present Government functions. I won't say that is my Government, it is our Government as I have been saying all along. After completing all these works, I have come to Thoothukudi to participate in this function.

An International Furniture Park is to be set up here. Thoothukudi is going to have the unique distinction of having the first Furniture Park in the Country .

Thoothukudi District is at the far south of the State. International Furniture park is to be set up in this District famous for pearl diving.

The park is to be set up on the soil of Veerapandiya Kattabomman, Veeran Sundaralingam, Mahakavi Bharathiyar and Kappalottiya Tamizhan, who sacrificed their lives for the Independence of the Country .

V.O.C's dream that a self-sustaining economy should be achieved in our Country with its own funds has been achieved now.

Thoothukudi is also shining as a place having good water resources and agricultural lands and as a place reflecting Tamil governance, civilization and culture.

As Thoothukudi is famous for its pearl culture industry, it is known as Muthu Nagar. This Muthu Nagar was officially declared as the 10th Corporation of the State by Muthamizh Arignar Dr.Kalaignar.

The policy of the Kazhagam Government is that Villages should develop as Towns and Towns as Corporations. Based on that policy, Dr.Kalaignar declared Thoothukudi as a Corporation, so that the District gets many schemes and business enterprises.

In the same way, we are setting up this International Furniture Park. There is an important reason for selecting Thoothukudi for setting up the Furniture Park. The main reason is to create large employment opportunities in the southern part of the State, to improve the livelihood of the people and the economy.

Export and import trade is going on successfully in the Thoothukudi Port, which is the second biggest port in the State and the third largest in the Country. This Port is the gateway for ships from South East Asian Countries, Australia

and New Zealand. That is why we are setting up the Park here.

Some States are yet to recover from the Corona pandemic. The economy of some States was severely affected due to the pandemic. Tamil Nadu not only retrieved the economy from the Corona pandemic but is dedicated to improving the economy. That is the reason the State's economic growth has been steady in the last 10 months. That is really heartening.

The State is marching towards the Dravidian Model with the objectives of eradication of poverty, increasing employment opportunities, protecting the environment, social justice and inclusive growth. The present schemes being implemented by the Government and its actions are not for short-term gains. The aim is to provide an environment for a good life for the people of the State in the present and future years by utilizing the resources of the State, thereby improving the industrial growth of the State.

So far, we have organized 3 Investors' meetings. The MoUs signed in these meets show the confidence reposed in us by industrialists. Two meets were held in Chennai and one in Coimbatore. They were all well received by the investors.

The Government of Tamil Nadu recently released its 'Financial Policy' and 'Export Promotion Strategy'. So far MoUs have been signed for 109 schemes, which attract an investment of Rs. 56,229 crore facilitating employment to 1,74,999 persons. The schemes spread over the entire State.

I said the growth would be widespread, commendable, uniform and the best. That has become a reality now.

To attract investments, I said I would tour every part of the State and inaugurate the schemes. My target is widespread and uniform industrial growth. That is the goal of the present Government.

The Government has many big plans to industrialize the southern part of the State. Steps are being taken to set up industrial parks in the southern Districts, such as Thoothukudi, Virudhunagar, Ramanathapuram, Theni, Tirunelveli, and Sivagangai. To encourage entrepreneurs to start industries in the southern Districts, the Government has announced special concessions to entrepreneurs.

- Investment ceiling limit for subsidy benefit has been reduced.
- In Industrial parks and growth centres, there is a 50 per cent subsidy for land allotted.
- There is a cent per cent exemption on stamp duty.
- Already Amway, Bosch, ATC Tyres, Brittannia, ITC Ltd and Syntel have set up their units and started commercial production. Along with this, more special schemes have been included for the southern Districts.
- To meet the water demand of industries in SIPCOT complex and its surrounding areas, a sea water desalination plant of 30 million litres capacity per day will be set up through SIPCOT.
- Food Parks on 150 acres each, will be set up in Theni and Thoothukudi Districts. We are

working on preparing a detailed project report.

- In E.Kumaralingapuram, E.Muthulingapuram and Thulukkapatti Villages in Virudhunagar District, under the Union Government's Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks, SIPCOT is to set up a mega Textile Park on a 1,000 acre site. For this park also, a detailed project report is being made ready.

We study the requirements of every Department, plan schemes accordingly and take constructive measures to implement them. To meet future challenges, with investments in new and modern technologies, we take steps to improve the economy of the state.

The present International Furniture Park is one such scheme.

In the 2021-2022 budget, we announced that an international furniture park would be set up attracting an investment of Rs. 4,500 crore facilitating employment for 3.5 lakh people. I am really proud to say that as a mark of implementing the announcement, l have laid the foundation stone for such a park today.

We do what we promise and say what we have done.

In the present circumstances, this scheme is very important. Experts have forecasted that the requirement of room furniture and wooden objects before 2025 will touch 750-800 billion dollars. At present, China and Vietnam are at the forefront in the furniture market. India's contribution is very low. This Park has been set up to improve the Country 's share.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has come forward to set up a furniture park of international standard. For this a 1,156 acre site has been identified at 13 km from the Thoothukudi Port, very close to the National Highways.

We have created the environment to meet the 70 to 80 per cent of the raw material requirement for the park in the park itself. To be precise, in furniture production, the competitiveness of the state will increase.

For this we met over 600 entrepreneurs and held detailed discussions with more than 25 units, which are in the supply chain. Following this, a big concern in Belgium, which specializes in door and window manufacture, has come forward to invest Rs.430 crore in the park.

Similarly, many commercial organizations have come forward to invest Rs. 300 to Rs. 750 crore through their units. This is really heartening information. Of these two units, land has already been allotted for M/s. Hettich India Pvt Ltd, and M/s. Deceuninck Profiles India Pvt Ltd.

The State Government is functioning for the growth of Tamil Nadu and is attracting industries for their investment. We announced during the election campaign that we would retrieve Tamil Nadu. Now, I am involving myself fully in that task. Soon Tamil Nadu will attain the number one position. For that, I extend my greetings and congratulations. At the same time, I would like to tell you one thing. This programme will definitely result in great success. For every function, a minute-to-minute programme schedule is prepared. For this function also the authorities concerned gave me that programme schedule. As per the schedule, the programme had to start at 10 am. But we started the function at 9.45 am itself. The function began quite earlier than announced. As per the schedule, I had to begin my speech at 10.44 am and complete it by 10.56 am. But I started my address at 10.30 am itself. So we are moving in advance. In the same situation, the project will be completed before time and I am sure that the project will go from success to success. With this appeal I take leave of you and once again thank you.

Hon'ble Chief Minister reviews road renovation works in Thoothukudi District, instructs officials

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, on 07.03.2022, reviewed the progress of renovation works of roads in Thoothukudi District, which were heavily damaged during the last North East Monsoon and inspected the renovation of roads and rain water drainage projects in Bryant Nagar East and West, at an estimate of Rs.19.45 crore, in Subbiahpuram and Masilamanipuram, at an estimate of Rs. 14.50 crore and at Mac Garden, Kumaran Nagar, Sathya Nagar and Ambedkar Nagar at a cost of Rs.11.50 crore.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister personally inspected the areas affected due to North East Monsoon rains in Thoothukudi District on 02.12.2021 and directed the officials to carry out the road repair works expeditiously and also distributed welfare measures to people.

In continuation of this, as a part of Smart Thoothukudi City scheme, roads damaged due to North East Monsoon in the District are being renovated at a cost of Rs. 9.25 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the drainage works in Bryant Nagar West Main Road and in all roads in Bryant Nagar West. Of the 6.237 km length of roads, drainage pipe laying works have been completed in 3.560 km length of roads.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also enquired about the progress of drainage works, carried out at a cost of Rs.10.20 crore, on the eastern side of the Bryant Nagar West Main Road and on the roads in the central portion of the Bryant Nagar. Drainage works have been completed to a length of 5.950 km out of 8.208 km.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also enquired about the progress of main drainage works that have been undertaken at a cost of Rs. 14.50 crore from Subbiahpuram to State highway-176 and on Subbiahpuram and Masilamanipuram, with the officials. Drainage pipe laying

works have been completed to a length of 2.600 km out of 8.460 km length.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inspected the rain water drainage works, executed at a cost of Rs.11.50 crore in Mac Garden, Kumaran Garden, Sathya Nagar, Ambedkar Nagar and Sunderavelpuram. Rain water drainage works have been completed to a length of 4.400 km out of a total length of 8.332 km.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the officials to complete the remaining works expeditiously before the further rains and also asked them to continuously monitor the road laying works to ensure quality.

People of the area thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister for visiting the roads damaged due to monsoon rains and for reviewing the progress of rain water drainage works.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** after inspecting the works executed to repair the damages caused by the North-East monsoon rains at Kanniyakumari and had a cup of tea in a tea shop at Aaralvaimozhi on the way to Madurai Airport, on 07.03.2022.

Hon'ble Chief Minister reviews repair works of damaged roads in Nagercoil Corporation limits

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin**, on 07.03.2022, reviewed the progress of repair works of damaged roads in Nagercoil Corporation limits, carried out at a cost of Rs.26 crore, laying of giant steel pipes for pumping water from Peyankuzhi Irrataikarai Canal, costing Rs. 60 lakh and the renovation works of damaged portions in the canal of Kumarakovil-Padmanabhapuram Puthanar Reservoir, at a cost of Rs. 20 lakh.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the rain-affected areas in Kanniyakumari District due to North East Monsoon on 15.11.2021 and directed the officials to carry out the repair works speedily. He also distributed relief measures to the affected people.

In continuation of his earlier visit, the Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the progress of drinking water improvement schemes and underground drainage works being carried out at a cost of Rs. 10 crore by laying 19 roads to a length of 12.59 km, damaged due to floods in the Nagercoil Corporation of the Kanniyakumari District and 65 road works, being carried out at a cost of Rs. 16 crore, under the investment subsidy scheme.

Due to breaches in Peyankuzhi Irrattaikarai Canal, the water level in tanks had come down affecting farmers and the general public. To provide water to the affected farmers, 3 giant steel pipes were laid to carry water from the canal. The work was completed at a cost of Rs. 60 lakh, allotted from the Tamil Nadu Disaster Management Fund, and the Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the completed works.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister supervised and reviewed the completed repair works of the damaged portion of the Kumarakovil-Padmanabhapuram Puthanar Canal Reservoir, at a cost of Rs. 20 lakh, at L.S.21/170 km and L.S. 22/600 km and the renovated canal was dedicated to the farmers and the public use.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** handed over the Avvaiyar Award for the year 2022 to Tmt. Girija Kumarbabu for her services for the welfare of women and children, on behalf of the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department, at the Secretariat in Chennai on 08.03.2022.

Through the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department, the Government of Tamil Nadu has been giving an Award in the name of Avvaiyar every year. It is given to a woman who excels in serving the cause of women empowerment, communal harmony, language, art, science, journalism and administration. The Award consists of an 8 gram gold medallion and a cash price of Rs. One lakh.

For the year 2022, the Government of Tamil Nadu selected Tmt. Girija Kumarbabu for the Award recognizing the services she had rendered. She is the Secretary of the Indian Council for Child Welfare, Member of the Juvenile Justice Board, State-level committee for prevention of trafficking of women and children and medical ethics committee at Sri Ramachandra Medical University. She has also worked with UNICEF and has the distinction of training many women in social service activities. The Award has been conferred in recognition of her contribution to women.

March 8: ***International Women's Day***

Avvaiyar statue garlanded on Women's Day

Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Tmt. P.Geetha Jeevan, Hon'ble Minister for Adi Dravidar Welfare Tmt. N.Kayalvizhi Selvaraj, Hon'ble Mayor of Chennai Tmt. R. Priya, Respectable Deputy Mayor of Chennai Thiru. Mahesh kumar, Secretary to Government, Tamil Development and Information Department, *Thiru. Mahesan Kasirajan, I.A.S., and Director of Information & Public Relations Dr. V.P. Jeyaseelan, I.A.S., paid floral tributes to the portrait of Tamil poet Avvaiyar, placed near her statue, in connection with International Women's Day at the Marina on 08.03.2022.*

Awards for Republic Day awardees

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin,** handed over Republic Day awards to the winners who could not participate in the Republic Day function, at the Secretariat on 08.03.2022. Some winners of the Anna Medal for Gallantry, Thiru. C. Narayanasamy Naidu Award for highest paddy yield and Gandhi Adigal Police Medal, could not attend the Republic Day Function and receive the medals.

Every year on Republic Day, the Hon'ble Governor hoists the National Flag at the Republic Day function on the Marina. The Hon'ble Chief Minister graces the occasion and distributes the Anna Medal for Gallantry, Gandhi Adigal Police Medal, C. Narayanasamy Naidu award for highest paddy yield and Kottai Amir Award for Communal Harmony.

In the current year's Republic Day function, due to the Corona pandemic, award winners Thiru. V. Muthukrishnan of Sivagangai District, Selvan S.Logith from Tiruchirappalli District, Dr.K.Asokan from Coimbatore District, and Tmt. C.Sudha alias Pechiammal could not participate. For them, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the Anna Medal for Gallantry and a cheque for Rs. One lakh each. The C. Narayanasami Naidu award of a medal and cheque for Rs. 5 lakh was given to Thiru. S. Ramasami of Salem. The Gandhi Adigal Police medal of cash prize of Rs. 40,000 and a commendation certificate were received by Thiru. M.Kumar, Inspector of the Central Intelligence wing, Vellore Division and Thiru. S. Chidambaram, Sub-Inspector of Musiri Police Station in Tiruchirappalli District from the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Review meeting for Information and Public Relations officers

Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity, Thiru. M.P.Saminathan presided over, a review meeting on the functioning of Public Relations Officers, at Chennai on 08.03.2022.

The Hon'ble Minister in his address said that the Public Relations Officers should take the Government schemes and achievements to the people and serve as bridge between the Government and the public. The Minister said that the Tamilarasu magazine served the purpose of informing the public about various schemes implemented by different Departments of the Government and their achievements. For this to be effective, the target for the magazine's subscriptions should be achieved. News about the functions of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, news and photographs, live events and Government orders should be uploaded in the District Collector's portal in the respective Districts to enable people to know the schemes and programmes of the Government.

The Hon'ble Minister appealed to the officers to properly maintain the memorials and statues in various Districts. He said that the name boards of the memorials should be properly displayed on roads leading to them.

Farmers win conservator awards for cultivating traditional rice varieties

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** handed over Bharat Ratna Dr.M.G.R. Traditional Rice Variety Conservator Awards and cash prizes for the year 2020-2021 to Thiru. S.Murthi, Thiru. K.Ponnu Puthiyavan and Tmt. B. Lakshmi Devi, at the Secretariat on 08.03.2022.

To protect the interests of farmers, the name of the Agriculture Department has been changed as Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department. To improve the income of farmers, a separate budget for Agriculture was submitted in the Assembly under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. M.K.Stalin. The Government of Tamil Nadu has been implementing various welfare schemes to improve the livelihood of farmers.

Farmers are now showing interest in retrieving traditional paddy varieties as the existing paddy varieties do not have sufficient mineral strength.

To encourage such farmers who conserve traditional paddy varieties, the Government of Tamil Nadu has instituted the Bharat Ratna Dr.M.G.R. Traditional Rice Variety Conservator Award.

For the year 2020-2021, this award was given to Thiru. S.Murthi, who won the first place by successfully harvesting 10,672.5 kg of Black Kavuni Variety per hectare. He was given a cash prize of Rs. One lakh and a Commendation Certificate.The second price of Rs.75,000 was won by Thiru. K.Ponnu Puthiyavan of Tirunelveli District, who successfully harvested 10,200 kg Scented Seeraga Samba Variety per hectare. The third prize was won by Tmt. B.Lakshmidevi of Tirunelveli District, who was given Rs.50,000 cash prize and an appreciation certificate for getting a yield of 10,024.875 kg of Kichili Samba variety per hectare. The Awards were handed over by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

On the same occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also handed over appointment orders to 6 candidates as a mark of distributing orders for the vacant posts of 17 Assistant Directors in Horticulture Department, 162 Horticulture Officers and 361 Agriculture Officers, selected through the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission.

Hon'ble Chief Minister hands over appointment orders to Police Personnel

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, at the Secretariat on 08.03.2022, handed over appointment orders to 5 persons as a mark of handing over appointment orders for the posts of 9,831 second grade constables, 1,200 fire servicemen and in 119 Prison and Correctional Services Department.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has given the direction that the Police Department, apart from preventing crimes and securing punishment for those indulging in crimes, should also create an atmosphere where crimes don't happen. For this, the Government of Tamil Nadu has been implementing various schemes.

For a population of 7.5 crore people in Tamil Nadu, there are 1,13,000 Police Personnel in the State. To maintain law and order in the State, the Government has been taking steps to fill all the vacancies in the Police, Fire and Rescue Services, Prisons and Correctional Services Departments.

As part of the move, 9,831 second-grade constables, 1,200 fire service men and 119 Prison and Correctional Services personnel have been selected through the Tamil Nadu Uniformed Services Recruitment Board.

Of the 9,831 selected second grade constables, 6,140 were posted in Special Force and 3,691 in Armed Reserve Police. The selected Police Personnel included 2,948 women constables and 3 transgenders. Of the 119 candidates selected for the Prisons and Correctional Services Department, 12 were women Jail Wardens. By filling the vacant posts in the Police Department, the effectiveness of the Department will increase.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates Saint-Gobain's Float Glass plant

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** declared open the Float Glass plant and Integrated Window Line, set up by Saint-Gobain, on 09.03.2022, at a cost of Rs. 500 crore, facilitating employment to 200 persons at the Saint-Gobain factory complex in Sriperumbudur. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated Saint-Gobain -SIPCOT Urban Forest.

Muthamizh Arignar Dr.Kalaignar laid the foundation stone for the Saint-Gobain factory in 1998 at the Sriperumbudur Industrial Complex and inaugurated production in the year 2000. The factory, located on a 177 acre site, has invested more than Rs.3,750 crore. This factory has the distinction of having invested the maximum in Sriperumbudur Industrial Complex. Saint-Gobain has invested about Rs. 4,700 crore and is providing direct employment to 2,000 persons and indirect employment to 2,500 employees. The unit manufactures normal glass, tinted glass, face mirrors, lacquered glass, Insulated glass, coated glass, protective glass, fire-resistant glass and bullet proof glass. About 90 per cent of value-added glass products made by the unit are exported.

This Float Glass Unit has extended production capacity, latest technology and distinctive 4.0 design. The unit will meet the emerging needs of architectural, automotive (including electric vehicles) and solar applications .

Integrated window section

This Integrated window line is a completely digitalized and automated plant. The unit has been designed to manufacture one lakh windows of 10,000 sq.metres per annum. The plant will make UPVC window products focusing on the emerging needs of acoustics, solar/ thermal comfort and security.

The urban forest of Saint-Gobain - SIPCOT has been developed on about 3 lakh sq.ft with 60,000 trees. This is a private- public participation project. This forest will help improve the greenery of the State and its target of achieving 33 per cent green cover.

Hon'ble Chief Minister asks District Collectors to come up with innovative ideas, guide students

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** presided over the first day of the meeting of District Collectors, Police and Forest Department officers conference, at the Secretariat on 10.03.2022.

Hon'ble Ministers and Government officials including the Chief Secretary to Government participated in the conference.

First, the Chief Secretary to Government Dr.V.Irai Anbu I.A.S., delivered the welcome address.

This was followed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister's presidential address *(English Translation)*.

Hon'ble Ministers, Chief Secretary to Government, Director General of Police, Additional Chief Secretaries to Government, Secretaries of Government Departments, District Collectors, Superintendents of Police, Forest Officers – my affectionate greetings to all of you.

This is the first conference of District Collectors, Superintendents of Police and Forest officers after the regime change in Tamil Nadu and the formation of the new Government. I am happy to meet you all through this conference. I convey my greetings to all of you.

Ten months have passed since this Government assumed responsibility. We have successfully tackled 2 Corona waves and put a full stop to them also. Your co-operation was the important reason for that. The District administration has implemented lockdown and other Government measures in an excellent manner, without affecting the livelihood and other basic needs of the people. You worked so hard to make the 'great people's movement' -- vaccination -- a success. Thinking about it, your contribution is highly appreciable and praiseworthy. When flood damages occurred due to unprecedented heavy rains in the Districts, the respective District administrations also worked day and night. I appreciate them wholeheartedly. You all know well the condition of the State administration when we assumed the responsibility of governance.

Despite challenges on one side, we have recorded many great achievements also. We are jointly providing an honest, transparent and desirable administration. As you are also a partner in this, I am duty bound to convey my encomiums to you again and again.

We have given more than 500 promises to the people; we are now engaged in activities to fulfill more than 70 per cent of them.

We declared 7 visionary targets in the name 'Stalin's 7 promises'. We have prepared action plans for them and are implementing them. We set up a state economic advisory council for realizing those targets; we created a State development policy committee; prepared FinTech policy, export development policy, a policy for the children of Tamil Nadu; tabled an exclusive budget for agriculture and put forth the ideal of a policy centered welfare Government.

In this way we have turned the wheels of the administration in the right way and people are benefiting by giving importance to the priorities of the 'Dravidian Model' Government.

We have made the administration of Tamil Nadu stand erect at the national level by framing pioneering schemes for the entire country, like 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam', 'Illam Thedi Kalvi' and 'Innuyir Kappom – Nammai Kakkum 48' and implementing such welfare-oriented schemes in the last 10 months so as to reach the marginalized section. For this cooperation of yours as officers, I applaud you once again.

In this conference of District Collectors and Superintendents of Police, Forest Officers too are taking part for the first time. This is because, in the present times, climate change is a very important issue! This co-ordinated conference is held to stress the importance of the Environment, Climate Change and the Forest Department in the development of society.

To bring this change we have named the Department as Environment and Climate Change Department. This is an important initiative to turn Tamil Nadu into a Green State.

We have to increase the greenery in Tamil Nadu from the present 24 per cent to 33 per cent in 10 years. To achieve that target, the entire District administration should move jointly in one direction.

Maintenance of law and order is very important to realize our goal of a one trillion dollar economy through new investments and employment opportunities to the youth, thus ensuring the State's development. The District administration should jointly monitor whether the maintenance of law and order in the State is uniform. I will not compromise on law and order matters. I hope you would have realized this.

Particularly, this Government will never permit crimes against women and children, drug-related crimes and economic offences. Immediate action should be taken without any mercy against persons disturbing communal harmony whoever it be. To ensure the prevalence of peace in society, the Police Department is engaged in precautionary measures with great care in places vulnerable to caste clashes. We should not allow destructive forces to rise up in any shape.

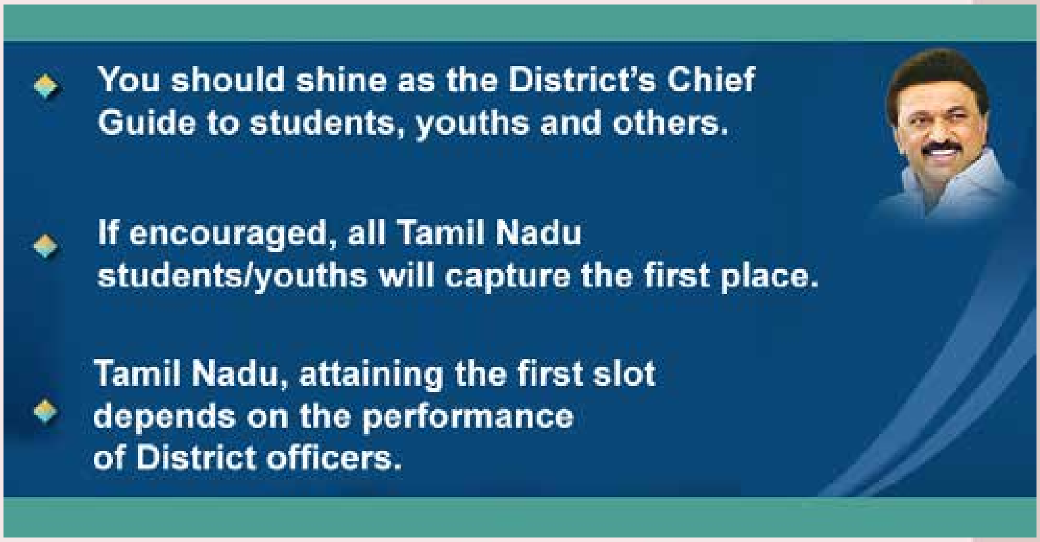
Our Government's target is the establishment of an egalitarian society – one race; one community. The Police Department should not discriminate in subduing persons engaged in activities affecting the people like running kangaroo court, violence, cheating and land grab, whoever it be. With an iron hand anti-social elements and mercenaries who disturb law and order and communal peace, should be put down. Everything depends on the peace you establish in this way.

I am greatly vexed that Tamil Nadu is one of the states with a high percentage of road accidents. We are taking measures to reduce such accidents.

I launched an initiative 'Stalin in your constituency' even before coming to power and set up an exclusive Department, after assuming office, for resolving the grievances mentioned in the petitions collected before the elections. The 'Chief Minister in your constituency' Department that has been created should hear the voice of the people who have put forward their difficulties and needs as petitions. The District Collectors should ensure the segregation of these petitions as demands for public causes and individual needs and as action taken on them.

Due to the failure of execution of works in time at state, taluk, town and village levels, a majority of people are sending petitions to the secretariat with tearful eyes and a heavy heart, expecting solutions. These petitions should be examined compassionately and action should be taken swiftly. Department-wise details about the beneficiaries of our schemes should be compiled.

Likewise, I launched my dream scheme 'Naan Mudhalvan', designed to benefit generations together, on March 1. This magnificent scheme aims at creating an excellent future for our students and youth by upgrading their unique skills. I am



duty-bound to request all the District Collectors and Superintendents of Police to get involved in this scheme.

I want you to be the chief District guide to students and youth. Someone would have inspired you/guided you to reach the present high position. Likewise, if you turn out to be a guide to students and youth of Tamil Nadu and encourage them, they will all attain the first place.

Tamil Nadu will achieve the 'No.1' slot. With trust in you, I hand over my dream scheme. There are no two views that the success of our Government's welfare schemes depends on the performance of District-level officers. Hence, you should work with a sense of honesty, transparency and total dedication. I assure you that this Government will stand by those who work in this manner.

Though I wish to refer to many matters that were brought to my attention, I am eager to listen to your views today, the first day of the conference. I am waiting to know the true state of affairs at the District level. So I request you to put forth your views clearly. Without any hesitation you can express your views on the working of the schemes that have been implemented in the District. Also render required suggestions to execute them more efficiently.

Here, you should clearly express new ideas that strike you as well as suggestions for projects and initiatives that will benefit the people. I conclude my speech stating that our Government will give full co-operation to new initiatives.

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin at the conclusion of the morning session of the conference of District Collectors and Superintendents of Police and Forest Officers 10.03.2022 *(English Translation)***.**

District Collectors, Superintendents of Police and forest officers have, briefly, but at the same time clearly, stated the prevailing law and order situation in the state, offered suggestions to improve it and mentioned the various challenges they confront.

Law and order is not confined to the Police Department alone. Neither does it affect only one Department. Once again, I wish to stress to you that it is important to determine every dimension of our society like the standard of living of people, economic development, next generation's education and employment opportunities.

I seek the following from the District Collectors and Superintendents of Police:

- You should conduct the monthly meeting regarding law and order in your District with great care and without fail.
- In the last 2 years, these meetings were not conducted properly due to the COVID pandemic. This should change.
- Further, you should, without fail, hold weekly consultations regarding law and order with Intelligence Bureau inputs.
- My next suggestion is you should create a Dashboard for your District. There should be a follow up on the decisions taken in the monthly law and order meeting and in the successive ones regarding their proper implementation and resolution.
- Prevention of crime and law and order problems will benefit people more than the steps taken to resolve and investigate them post-occurrence. So you should realize that our success is in preventing the occurrence of these problems that affect the people rather than resolving them after they happen.

After I took over the reins of Government, I declared that the guilty would be punished whoever they are; by taking action in this manner I proved that I meant what I said. I have demonstrated this many times. You know it well. I am repeating this as I want this state of affairs to continue.

What I wish to finally say is this: **this Government will be judged by the maintenance of law and order; Requesting you once again that you should all realize this and act accordingly**, I conclude my speech.

Hon'ble Chief Minister tells SPs, 'in law and order issues you have free hand to act'

Introductory and valedictory remarks of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** at the Police officers conference on 10.03.2022 (*English Translation*).

I greet you all. In the Tamil Nadu Cabinet, the Police Department is under my control! Though we faced many difficulties after taking over the responsibilities of office, I convey my thanks to the Police Department for its excellent work.

As I have already stated – this is the 'social media era'! In this social media era – every person has a mobile phone. The greatest concern and work of the Police Department is going to be issues arising out of social media and taking immediate action with respect to them.

To put it more precisely, caste and religious confrontations begin in the social media creating problems for the maintenance of law and order.

I request those speaking here on different subjects to express your views on what is to be done regarding this online concern.

Valedictory remarks:

I greet you all.

All the Superintendents of Police, Police Commissioners and high officers who spoke in the evening session today expressed their viewpoints very clearly. I thank you for that.

First, I wish to say that all your views will be taken up for scrutiny and appropriate action will be taken under various heads.

Our state is a model State to the entire country on account of the peaceful conditions that prevail in every ordinary family, industry, as well as commercial and educational institutions. This is due to the maintenance of law and order. It is under this important criterion that people evaluate a State and its Government.

You should understand this great difference between the Police Department and other Government Departments. You have to keep this in mind and act. In particular, I wish to say one or two things. In law and order issues, the District Police Superintendent should act on his/her own as per the field situation and within the ambit of law. There is no need to wait, expecting a separate order from above.

Next, when law and order problems arise, high officers should go to the place concerned and resolve the problem. This will give strength and courage to subordinate officials. You will certainly get public support.

I wish to mention one other important matter. You should understand your subordinates' office-related problems and needs, encourage them and thus form your own team. This is called Team Building. Only then, you will be a leader, not just a Police Superintendent, and get total co-operation

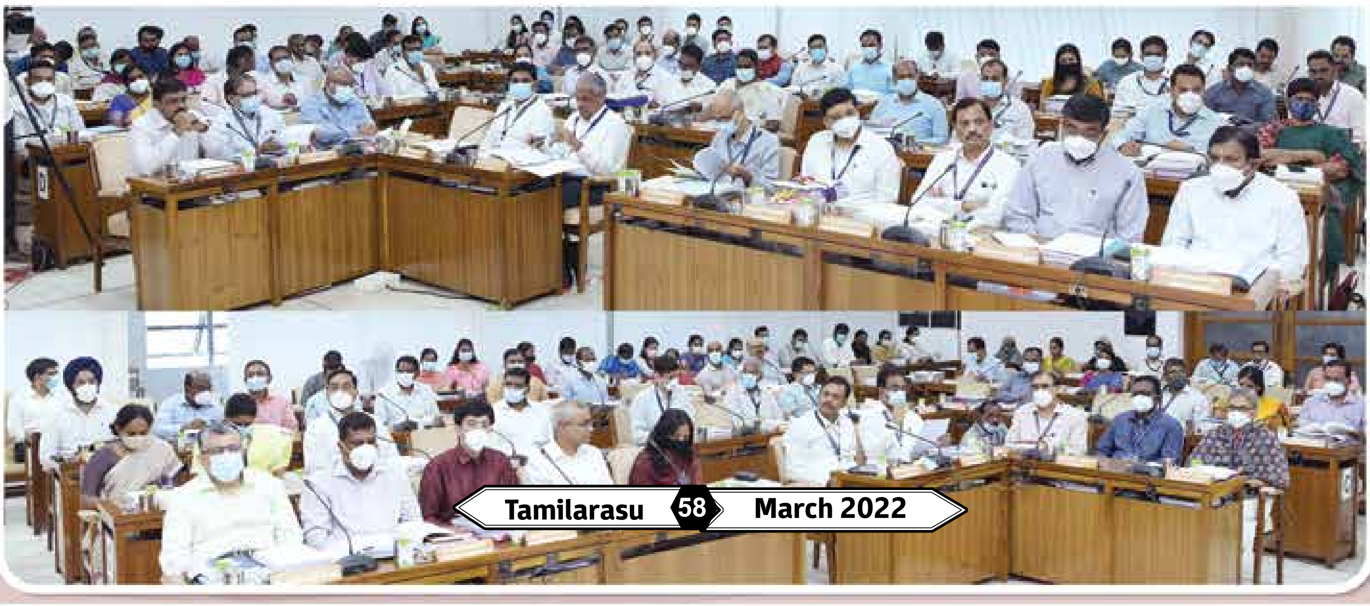
This Government's aim is only one. That is people's welfare, communal harmony, a lifestyle bereft of crimes. It is in your hands to bring this about. Requesting you to implement it, we conclude this evening session at this level.

Hon'ble Chief Minister points out at conference of Collectors: 'People are our ultimate masters'

Introductory remarks of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin**, on the second day of the conference of District Collectors on 11.03.2022 (*English Translation*).

Hon'ble Ministers, High officers of Government including the Chief Secretary, District Collectors – I extend my affectionate greetings to all of you.

Our Chief Secretary has stated clearly and in detail the purpose of this meeting. He has explained how you should put forward your viewpoints and also listed the works we have to carry out. Hence there is no need for me to speak more about all that.



Still, as introductory remarks, I wish to convey my feelings to you.

District Collectors can speak exhaustively about the schemes to be implemented in their Districts and about field realities. I request you to include in your viewpoints on ensuring that scheme benefits reach the people.

We should not forget that people are our masters, they are the masters of us, the politicians and you, the Government officials. Even if a rupee is spent, it should reach the marginalized people without leakage. That will be the touchstone of a good administration. You can speak about new schemes in your Districts if you have suggestions for implementing them. Each District has its own natural resource. It may be turmeric; it may be abundant natural resources. You can express your viewpoints on how these can be marketed, how to increase Government's income through it and the schemes that will benefit farmers, workers, and small and big industries. You can freely express your thoughts, keeping in mind honest and transparent governance. I am eager to listen to your views on these lines. With this I conclude my introductory remarks.

Concluding speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister on second day of the conference of District Collectors

I greet you all. I carefully listened to your excellent views, delivered from this morning, as well as your suggestions and the help you seek from the Government to resolve certain problems faced during field inspection.

All the District Collectors are performing excellently, taking Government schemes to the people in the best possible way. I congratulate you all for this. Each one of you took up a particular issue and gave solutions also. I request the Heads of Departments and Secretaries to Government concerned to consult the Chief Secretary and take appropriate action based on these suggestions.

We understand that welfare schemes have not produced the expected impact in some particular areas though the Government has implemented them through various Departments by allotting funds. So, I request you to identify the schemes and sectors in which your District lags behind, pay greater attention to them and bring your District into the list of those in the forefront in the State.

I wish to mention one thing which you, as District head, should keep in mind. That is, the District administration's priorities should coincide with those of the state Government. The State Government's policy of 'inclusive growth' should reflect in the implementation of schemes. **You should particularly give priority to meeting the needs of the marginalized people, minorities, scheduled castes and tribes and differently abled persons.**

In the differently abled sector, you should give importance to issuing new ID cards; left-out persons should be identified. As the District Collector of Sivagangai stated this morning, arrangements should be made to conduct integrated special camps in every Panchayat Union and ID cards issued the same day. Besides, the scheme benefits that will accrue to them through other Departments should be integrated and decided upon then and there.

While engaged in implementation of good schemes and development works, you have to pay serious attention to some particular basic Government activities that are likely to affect the people immediately. For example, name change in patta, issue of certificates, removal of encroachments, particularly those on poramboke water bodies etc., can be cited.

"You should particularly give priority to meeting the needs of the marginalized people, minorities, scheduled castes and tribes and differently abled persons."

As I have already stated, you should, without fail, inspect primary health centres, Government hospitals, schools, student hostels, anganwadis and fair price shops serially, whenever time permits you. Only then you can see what sort of service is being provided to people, students and the marginalized people by various Departments; if there are deficiencies they can be rectified.

Nutrition deficiency is found in children in our state. As per one census, 36 per cent of children in Dharmapuri District are suffering from malnutrition. You have to implement the ICDS scheme with care. Though Tamil Nadu has the second largest economy in India, I have to point out with great sorrow that we are in the 19th place as regards nutrition. It is our duty to set this right.

As a bridge between people and Government, you have to function as a guide to take your District on the path of growth. I request you to plan in advance the steps to be taken to save people during times of disaster and implement them as and when the need occurs. In the last floods, we saw through a telecast the absence of even a small foot-bridge to take corpses to crematoria in some Districts and we were distressed; for the same reason, we saw school children wading through waist-deep water to schools. Such places should be listed and the difficulties removed. Only such action will make the administration full-fledged and efficient.

Recently, GOs have been issued for the implementation of two important schemes. They are 'Anaitthu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam' (Rural Anna Renaissance Scheme) and 'Kalaignarin Anaithu Grama Orunginaittha Velaan Valarchi Thittam' (Kalaignar Rural Integrated Agro-Development Scheme), to be implemented through Rural Development Department and Agriculture Department respectively. These two schemes have the potential to cover lakhs of villagers. At the same time their implementation involves co-ordination among other Departments. I request you to prioritize these two schemes and make them a success.

I wish to mention another important thing: each District's 'Annual Credit Plan'. You should hold the monthly Bankers Meeting, monitor activity and ensure that the various loans – educational, SHG, agricultural and industrial entrepreneur – are issued as per plan targets at all places in the District.

Through the implementation of schemes after minute scrutiny and with the co-ordination of other Departments, not only will lakhs of families benefit but the state too will rise higher. I have the confidence that all of you will involve yourselves in this development work wholeheartedly and with total dedication. I wish to assure you that this Government will support you in all ways for you to serve in this manner. With these words, I conclude my speech.

The first meeting of the State High Level Implementation Committee, set up in respect of enforcing the ban on single-use plastic in Tamil Nadu, was headed by the President of the Committee and the Chief Secretary to Government Dr. V. Irai Anbu I.A.S., at the Secretariat on 05.03.2022.

Hon'ble Chief Minister emphasizes reining in of social media hotheads to curb communal flare ups

Introductory remarks of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** at the conference of District Collectors and Forest Officers, on 12.03.2022 *(English Translation).*

Hon'ble Ministers, High officers of the Government including Chief Secretary, Public Sector officers – I extend my affectionate greetings to all of you.

You all know well how important sustained growth is for the state's development. Likewise, I wholeheartedly believe that all of you will be greatly concerned about protecting the environment.

This Government views industrial development and the environment as being of equal importance. Today, global warming is spoken of not merely at the national level but also at the global level. Targets are fixed in this regard. Increasing forest area and greening have become essential needs, not only for today's humanity but also for future generations.

You all know well that we planted saplings while we were in the Opposition. That is why as soon as we formed the Government we named this Department as 'Environment and Climate Change Department'. Further, we revived the use of yellow bags with a scheme to eradicate plastic bags. In the Pollution Control Board, we have sowed the seeds for a straight-forward and transparent process for grant of permission for Industrial projects.

For the first time, we are conducting a combined conference of District Collectors and forest officers. Today, debates are taking place about the Environment Impact Assessment Draft Notification 2020. Hence, I request you to provide constructive suggestions for treating Industry and Environment on an equal footing and for further expediting grant of permission for starting industries. I am very eager to know your views. With this, I conclude my introductory remarks.

Valedictory address of the Hon'ble Chief Minister (*English Translation*).

Hon'ble Ministers, Chief Secretary to Government, Government Secretaries, District Collectors, High officers of the Forest Department, High officers of Government Departments, Director General of Police through virtual contact, High officers of the Police Department, District Superintendents of Police – I extend my affectionate greetings to all of you.

The three-day conference of District Collectors, superintendents of police and forest officers has been highly satisfactory.

You have all spoken with an open mind. You have given many suggestions to the Government. On a personal note, I have understood through you that this Government is moving in the right direction.

Through your views I have understood that this Government is capable of fulfilling the various

needs of the people; through your thoughts, I have understood that our schemes are beneficial to the people.

To be brief, I have a full grasp of Tamil Nadu through you.

So, I express my heart-felt thanks to all of you, not merely on behalf of the Government but on my own behalf.

Just because I am in the Chief Minister's chair, I will never be swayed by my position to say that everything happens because of me.

Behind me, there are Ministers, Secretaries of Departments, District Collectors and Superintendents of Police. All of us together make this Government.

Collectively, we give life to this Government. Together, we function as the life and consciousness of the people.

The people have entrusted their governance, power and the Fort in our hands.

A Government should be capable of removing the distress of the marginalized people also. This Government has that capacity. I extend my thanks once again to the District Collectors, Superintendents of Police and forest officers, supporting such a Government.

With the feeling that it is our Government, with an open mind, you have given your thoughts in these three days.

I am duty-bound to remind you of some important suggestions only.

Your suggestions are more in respect of implementation of Government's important schemes and maintenance of law and order.

The Director General of Police said that law and order problems do occur now and then but they have been kept under control.

It is appreciable they have been brought under control; but I request you all to see that they don't occur.

Similarly, the additional Director General of Police mentioned about the reduction in crimes and cited the percentage also. It is not a matter of reducing the percentage of crime; we should achieve zero tolerance in respect of crimes. This is what I wish to request of you.

The Superintendent of Police of Tirunelveli District spoke in detail about caste clashes.

I request you not to look at them as a law and order issue because it is a problem of social discipline.

He said that the occurrence of this problem is more in villages.

Such a situation is brought about not only by un-educated youths but even by some unemployed educated persons.

We have to identify such persons and bring about a change of mind in them.

Job opportunities should be created for them. They should be reformed and brought to the right path through constructive ways like involving them in sports competitions and Home Guards force.

The Superintendent of Police of Tirunelveli spoke of how he was coordinating various Departments in bringing about such a change of heart. Administration in other Districts should follow suit.

The 2021 year award for rendering best service to differently abled persons was presented to the Sivaganga District Collector Thiru. P.Madhusudhan Reddy I.A.S.

Similarly, the Superintendent of Police of Kanniyakumari District spoke about communal clashes.

His suggestion that a special division in regard to communal clashes should be set up in every District as has been done in Coimbatore, will certainly be examined.

Once, religion was confined to religious affairs alone. Now, it has been politicized by some people. So, communal clashes are deliberately created with ulterior political motives. We have to stop it.

All of you stated that social media is the main cause for caste and communal clashes. This is cent per cent true.

This is an era of modern technology. This technology can be used both for good and bad purposes. Caste and religious perverts use it for destructive purposes and try to create social disturbance. These people should be uprooted at the start itself. Immediate action should be taken against those who put such tweets. We will certainly implement the request of Thiruvallur SP for a new office for social media centre.

He wanted the setting up of a 'National Media Analytics Centre', 'Social Media Lab' as in the Union Government. These feuds carried out through social media should be stopped in all ways. I request police officers to hold a separate consultative meeting and submit a report.

Vellore SP said producing prisoners in court through video conferencing will save time and expense. It is a good suggestion and can be implemented.

As for the problem of usage of purse seine nets, raised by the Nagapattinam District Collector and Superintendent of Police, a solution should be found after a thorough examination at the officers' level.

Nagai SP spoke about the increase in POCSO cases. Not only in Nagai but from other Districts also such news comes out.

The increase in incidence is not a new phenomenon. Only now, they complain about it boldly. It is your prime duty to get due justice for it. My expectation from you is that there should not be any delay in dealing with such cases.

Tambaram Commissioner and Kancheepuram SP stated that the presence of rowdies is more in industrial areas. It is very important to maintain law and order in such areas. Also, the Departments of revenue, police and labour welfare should jointly document details of local and migrant industrial workers.

Peaceful Districts alone will attract more industries. Tambaram Commissioner stated the problem of rowdies festers in stone quarries. The stone quarry industry in itself will not foster rowdies; business competition may lead to their growth. Officers should not be hand in gloves with them. Also it is wrong to label rowdies by their locations as North Chennai, Central Chennai etc. They should not be identified by location, caste and religion. Minister Sekar Babu spoke about ganja sales in slums. Such identifications should be avoided.

The Tiruchirapalli District Collector Thiru S. Sivarasu I.A.S., was presented the Award for the year 2022, for his excellent work in scrutinizing and taking action on petitions received by the Department of 'Mudhalvarin Mugavari' through the Chief Minister's Help Centre.

Tambaram Commissioner stated that schemes 'Velicham', 'Udhayam' and 'Vidiyal' are implemented to control rowdies. Others also can follow it.

Thanjavur SP said that child marriages should be prevented.

I think it occurs in a few particular places. Department of social welfare and District Collectors should take efforts to eradicate even such occurrences.

His observation that a state-wide sexual offenders registry should be prepared and those involved should be prevented from taking up any job in course of time, is correct.

Guilty persons should not be allowed to escape.

Cuddalore District Collector stated that a report has been sent to the Government regarding flood damages in Cuddalore and the measures to be taken to prevent its recurrence.

Schemes are to be framed to avert floods in Cuddalore. District Collectors and Superintendents of Police should give priority to reducing road accidents and averting loss of lives. Likewise, attention should be paid to prevention of cracker and fire accidents and in the reduction of damages thereof.

Many officers including Namakkal SP spoke about controlling narcotics.

Intensive surveillance should be launched in places near schools and educational institutions. Police can undertake anti-drug activities, jointly with NSS and NCC students.

In his speech, the additional director general of police (Intelligence Bureau) gave information about inland safety. Vigilance over coastal Districts and prevention of infiltration by personnel of banned organizations in the state are very important. In the same way concern over communal fundamentalism was also voiced. Overall, you have spoken about establishing peace; creation of a Tamil Nadu free from fear.

I desire the transformation of the Police Department from a Department that secures punishments to criminals to a Department that prevents the formation of criminals. I wish you success in your views.

Department Secretaries and District Collectors spoke in detail about the schemes.

Without repeating the same points, it is good that each one of you has taken one Department and spoke about it.

You spoke about important schemes like 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam', 'Namakku Namae', 'Samathuvapuram', 'Anna Marumalarchi Thittam', ' Anaithu Graama Velaan Valarchi Thittam', 'Underground Drainage schemes', 'Urban Employment' scheme, 'Kalaignar Housing Scheme' and about Special Programmes Implementation Department.

I request you to implement these schemes within your jurisdiction in a full-fledged manner and with swiftness.

Coimbatore District Collector spoke about the activities of local bodies. He mentioned the various initiatives being taken. I wish to say that the Government will take decisions shortly in respect of Siruvani water. A decision will be taken on the appointment of 'Municipal Administration Officers' after holding consultations.

In his speech, the Tiruchi District Collector referred to 'Muthalvarin Mugavari' scheme. He said 80 per cent of the petitions pertain to the Departments of revenue, rural development and police. Receipt of petitions will certainly dwindle if these three Departments function properly in the Districts. Personnel of these three Departments should pay attention to this.

Speaking on the welfare of the differently abled persons, the District Collector said employment opportunities suitable to them should be created.

Instead of creating new jobs, you should create an ambience that enables them to participate in jobs that are available at present and that could be made suitable for them.

Many officers, including Chennai District Collector spoke about land grabs and encroachments. A big debate took place here over the issue of patta to encroachers of water bodies. Courts are firm that a water body is a water body whether there is water in it or not. We continue to witness flood damages due to non-maintenance of water bodies. So we have to approach the issue of water body encroachment with great attention.

You gave good suggestions to increase the forest area to 33 per cent. This Government will allocate enough funds to implement them.

To control forest fires, besides providing fire prevention equipment, a sum of Rs.25 lakh will be given in the case of the unfortunate death of a fire-fighter, from the Chief Minister's public relief fund.

For treatment of wild animals, a separate unit will be set up in the animal husbandry Department and training will be given.

Compensation for loss of parents during the Corona period should be distributed immediately. I request that there not be any delay on any account.

Hon'ble Chief Minister **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** planted a tree sapling in front of Namakkal Kavignar Maligai, in connection with the District Collectors and Forest Officers Conference at the Secretariat, on 12.03.2022.

I really welcome the suggestion that the revenue Department and information technology Department should function in coordination.

Area and Ward Sabha meetings will be held in municipal corporations and municipalities and grievances of people will be removed.

Villupuram District Collector spoke about child marriages. It should not be permitted. That the children themselves have given information about such marriages is a cause for happiness. That a whatsapp group has been formed to identify children with anaemia and nutrition deficiency, as stated by him, is really to be welcomed.

The farm pond and greenery hillocks schemes, implemented in Tiruvannamalai can be adopted in other Districts also.

Organizations like 'uzhavar sandhaigal' will be set up to help animal rearers sell their animals without middlemen.

The plea of Dharmapuri District Collector to repair the houses constructed 30 years ago under the Indira Gandhi Awaz Yojana will certainly be referred to the Finance Department.

I request you to immediately find places for the newly started colleges.

Salem District Collector Karmegam narrated the difficulties in creating small and micro institutions.

All of you should take interest in setting up small and micro institutions. You should keep in mind that it is this sector which provides job opportunities to ordinary persons.

The Water Resources Secretary stated that the Government's allocation for rectifying damages caused by monsoon rains is not adequate. Certainly this will also be examined and the necessary funds will be allotted.

Government Departments should be totally computerized.

All electronic service centres will be inspected and steps will be taken to upgrade their activities.

Adi Dravidar student hostels are to be repaired. Complaints about their very bad condition in many places continue to come. All officers should visit the hostels and take steps.

Besides confirming now and then the number of students staying in hostels, hostel constructions will be extended in cities like Chennai as per need.

Secretary to the Department of Rural Development and Panchayat particularly mentioned about the necessity of District Collectors' cooperation in the implementation of schemes 'Namakku Namae', 'Samathuvapuram and 'Constituency Development Fund'

The required monitoring will be there to see that there is no delay and action is taken speedily in Revenue Department services like name change in pattas. The arrear works should be completed speedily, he said.

District Collectors should cooperate not only in these three schemes but in the implementation of all schemes. You should pay greater attention to schemes like 'Chief Minister in Your Constituency', 'Doctor at your doorstep', 'Agriculture Budget',' Education at your doorstep' and 'Naan Mudhalvan'. Education and health are the two eyes of this Government. The next target is road facility, electricity and distribution of food articles. In these spheres there should be no delay. We are here only to attend to them. It is linked to crores of people; crores of rupees have been allotted. The execution of all these schemes is in your two hands. Only if you monitor daily how each scheme is being implemented, will it succeed.

Create and keep the dashboard with you; I go through mine every day. You too must have the progress of schemes in your dashboard. Let there be completed works and works to be completed. One step at a time – to whatever level one wishes the scheme to progress. Every day, let us push up all the schemes to a new height. Through this, let us make Tamil Nadu scale new heights.

I am not asking for your cooperation; I only want you to use me as a tool to fulfill your dreams. The Tamil word for politics - 'arasiyal'- contains the word 'arasu' (Government). So let politics and governance combine together to create a prosperous Tamil Nadu. This is possible only by you.

I have been happier in the last three days than before. The speech of each one of you has been a tonic to me; it has energized me and made me more enthusiastic.

This three-day conference has laid the foundation of our mutual understanding. I thank the chief secretary for coordinating this event in a very excellent manner. As he has played the role of a judge in 'pattimandrams', he allowed everyone to speak and also made the speakers wind up their speech in time!

Likewise, I thank the Director General of Police. I thank the Department secretaries, District Collectors, Superintendent of Police and Ministers. We spoke more about planning in this meeting. In the next meeting, we will speak more about achievements. Things should happen that way. Expressing thanks once again to all of you, I conclude my speech.

At the valedictory of the conference of District Collectors, Superintendents of Police and Forest Officers Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** dined with District Collectors, Department Secretaries and high officers of the Government at the Secretariat,on 12.3.2022.

GREETINGS TO HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** greeted Justice Thiru. Munishwar Nath Bhandari at the Raj Bhavan on 14.02.2022 after the latter was sworn in as Chief Justice of the Madras High Court.

GUINNESS RECORD HOLDER BLESSED

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** blessed a third standard student Selvan V. Varun Sriram, for creating a Guinness Record by reeling out the names of the authors of 42 books in one minute, at the Secretariat on 24.02.2022.

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

I am happy over the announcement of conferment of Raoul Wallenberg Award of the Council of Europe on 'Evidence' Kadhir alias A. Arokiasamy Vincent Raj, activist, who works for the rights of the scheduled caste and tribes. My greetings for the more excellent continuation of his work.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K. Stalin
(In social media- 19.01.2022)

Children lauded for creating social awareness

Thanthai Periyar is not a name; it is an ideology, a guide for society to lead a rationalistic life with self respect for generations together! I was happy in blessing the Periyar toddlers who are to participate in a TV event with ideological commitment. This is the land of Periyar; there is room for art, not for weeds.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K. Stalin *(24.02.2022)*

Children who participated in the drama Thanthai Periyar, telecast by private channels for creating social awareness, met the Hon'ble Chief Minister and received his blessings. The children were Thwahsika, Elanthamizh (Thanthai Periyar), Udhaipriyan (Reporter), Alam (person who seeks help) and Sathvik, Dharikalakshmi ('kuravan' and 'kurathi') and Sriram who participated in the 'Kurathi' drama.

Student praised for his interview on humanism

I was moved to see the boy Abdul Kalam's interview on TV stressing that one should love everyone and hate none and so invited him and applauded him. His parents and teachers deserve appreciation for sowing the seeds of love and humanism in him without teaching caste and religious distinctions.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K. Stalin (24.02.2022)

Allotted a House...

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** allotted a house in the Sivalingapuram Scheme Area, Kalaignar Karunanidhi Nagar, Chennai to the parents of the school student A. Abdul Kalam who spoke on TV on humanism and communal harmony, and presented the order in this regard to them at the Secretariat on 26.02.2022.

On 24.02.2022, the school student Abdul Kalam met the Hon'ble Chief Minister and received his blessings. His parents Tmt. A. Dhilshad Begum and Thiru. A. Asmathullah requested the Hon'ble Chief Minister to allot them a house as they did not have funds to reconstruct their house in Srinivasapuram, Pattinapakkam, Chennai which collapsed in the Vardah cyclone.

Considering their request kindly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister allotted a house of the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Board in the Sivalingapuram Scheme Area, Kalaignar Karunanidhi Nagar Chennai and also handed over the order for it. Receiving the order, the parents of student Abdul Kalam, conveyed their heartfelt gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

LET VICTORIES MULTIPLY

My hearty congratulations to the 16-year old Grand Master from Tamil Nadu Master R. Praggnanandhaa for startling the world by defeating the world chess champion Carlsen, the winner of Super Computer and his own icon. Let there be more and more such victories.

-Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K. Stalin
(in social media – 22.02.2022)

Gold Medallists Greeted

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** greeted and congratulated R. Anupama, gold (2) and silver (1) medallist and Snethra Babu and Sri Krishna, gold medallist in the National Billiards and Snooker Championship competitions, held at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh in November-December 2021. The event took place at the Secretariat on 28.01.2022.

Yogasana medallists meet Chief Minister

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** met the students of Tiruppur District and medallists in the International Yogasana competition, held at Pondicherry – S.U. Dharshana, N. Balakrishnan, Divyasri, S. Karthikeyan, S.S. Devisri, N.Anitha and N. Dharanidharan, at the Secretariat and received his blessings on 07.01.2022.

Chennai student's feat

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** congratulated a student of Chennai, Selvan M.R. Navajith for getting his name into the International Book of Records, Asia Book of Records and India Book of Records 2022 for writing upside down the names of all the Districts of Tamil Nadu speedily at the Secretariat on 07.02.2022.

‘Let us work for an India in which all languages are treated equally’

“ On this International Mother Language Day, I bow before the thiyagis who fought for safeguarding and establishing the rights of their mother languages”.

“Let us pledge to create an India where all languages are treated equally without any one language dominating, by invoking the inspiration gained from the sacrifices of those thiyagis”.

-Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru.M.K. Stalin

From the year 1999, February 21 is observed as International Mother Language Day every year following a declaration by UNESCO. Accordingly, the Department of Tamil Development is celebrating ‘International Mother Language Day’ with the lofty ideal of educating the younger generation of the excellence of Tamil language. This year, the Day was celebrated at the International Institute of Tamil Studies, on 21.02.2022.

Thiru. Mahesan Kasirajan, I.A.S., Secretary to Government, Tamil Development and Information Department, gave the presidential address. Dr.M. Rajendran, former Vice-Chancellor of the Tamil University, Thanjavur delivered a special address on the event. After speaking on the greatness of language, he said computer technology available now was of great help for a person to understand his/her language in terms of modern times through translations from many languages.

Following this, a seminar was held on ‘Mother Language Day - some recordings’ with Prof. Dr. V. Jayadevan presiding. Participating in the seminar Dr. Ulaganayaki Palani said that to foster Tamil language further, profound books of everlasting fame should come out, books of eminent authors of foreign Countries should be translated into Tamil and the sounds of the language should be made to reverberate throughout the world. Dr. R. Raman, Principal, Presidency College spoke emotionally on the sweetness and richness of the Tamil language and concluded, “On the death bed too I should study Tamil and and my ashes should emit the fragrance of Tamil”. Kavignar S. Kamalanathan, former Director of All India Radio quoted the statement of ONB Kurup, great Malayalam poet and Padma Bhushan and Sahitya Akademi awardee, that “those who are born in the land of Bharathi are worthy of praise and adoration”.

A poets’ forum on the topic “Idhanale Penalaam thaaimozhiyai..” (With this the Tamil language can be fostered), presided over by Advocate Bala. Seenivasan was held. Selvi K.Srutilakshmi, Selvi J.Meenakshi, Tmt. Ari Reka and Thiru. Nalla Arivazhagan participated and rendered their poems.

Earlier, Dr. P. Anbuchezhian, Director (in-charge), Department of Tamil Development and International Institute of Tamil Studies welcomed the gathering. Thiru.M.C. Thyagarasan, Deputy Director (Admn), Department of Tamil Development, proposed a vote of thanks.

Republic Day floats receive public acclaim

At the Republic Day Parade on January 26 this year, on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, 3 decorated floats, glorifying the sacrifices made by freedom fighters belonging to Tamil Nadu, participated. Following good response for these floats from the public, the Government decided to take these decorated floats throughout the State to enable members of the common public and students to witness these vehicles and the same was flagged off by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, at the Island Grounds in Chennai on 26.01.2022.

In the first phase, the floats toured Coimbatore, Erode and Madurai on 28.01.2022. Hon'ble Ministers, District Collectors, MPs and MLAs received the vehicles and many people benefited by seeing the floats.

On the way to Madurai, the floats reached Melapachakudi at the border of Pudukkottai District, where they were received by the Hon'ble Minister for Law Thiru. S.Regupathy and Hon'ble Minister for Environment-Climate Change and Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Thiru. Siva.V.Meyyanathan.

At Tiruchy, the floats were given a grand reception by the District Collector at the Mannarpuram over-bridge underpass.

When the decorated floats reached Tiruppur District, they were received by the District Collector at Sengapalli bus-stand. On 01.02.2022 and 02.02.2022, the vehicles were stationed at Perumanallur bus-stand in Tiruppur. Hundreds of people visited the decorated vehicles and benefited by seeing them. Special cultural shows were also organized.

When the floats reached Thoothukudi District on 01.02.2022, they were received by the Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Tmt.P.Geetha Jeevan at Ettayapuram-

Vilathikulam corner, by showering the vehicles with flower petals. The vehicles were then parked at Science Park near V.O.C College, where students and the public benefited by witnessing the floats.

In the evening 02.02.2022, the floats reached the Korampallam area, where they were received with a cultural show by the Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare and Animal Husbandry, Thiru. Anitha R.Radhakrishnan, who showered flower petals on the floats.

On 03.02.2022, the floats were stationed at Salem bus-stand and the District Collector honoured the statues of the freedom fighters kept in the vehicles, by sprinkling flowers. There were cultural shows at the spot throughout the day, which were witnessed by school and college students and members of the public.

Reaching Tirunelveli District on 03.02.2022, the floats were received by the Hon'ble Assembly Speaker, Thiru. M.Appavu, Hon'ble Minister for Transport Thiru. R.S. Raja Kannappan and MLAs. Cultural programmes were held.

The floats were stationed at Tirunelveli new bus stand. The District Collector honoured the statues of the freedom fighters kept in the vehicles, by sprinkling flowers. There were cultural shows at the spot throughout the day, which were witnessed by school and college students and members of the public

On 04.02.2022, the floats reached Valliyur bus-stand where they were received by the Hon'ble Assembly Speaker Thiru. M.Appavu, by showering flowers.

The floats reached Mallur, the Namakkal District border on 04.02.2022. A grand reception was accorded to the floats by a team led by Hon'ble Minister for Tourism Dr.M. Mathiventhan. At Namakkal Garden Road, the vehicles were received by the Namakkal District Collector.

On 05.02.2022, the floats were given an enthusiastic reception with traditional mangala vadyam at the Karur District border, near Palathurai over-bridge near Thavittupalayam by a team headed by the District Collector. On 06.02.2022, the floats were parked at Thiruvalluvar Grounds where traditional cultural shows were held and a fancy dress competition was organized. Prizes were distributed to the winners of the competition.

When the floats reached Kanniyakumari on 05.02.2022, they were received by the Hon'ble Minister for Information and Technology Thiru. Mano Thangaraj with mangala vadyam. The vehicles were parked near Gandhi Mandapam where a grand reception was given under the leadership of the District Collector. On both the days, there were cultural programmes.

On 06.02.2022 the floats reached Chatram Bus-stand in Tiruchi where an impressive reception was given by a team led by the District Collector. The vehicles were parked at that point for 2 days and various cultural programmes were organized.

On 07.02.2022, the Hon'ble Minister for Revenue and Disaster Management, Thiru. K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran and Hon'ble Minister for Industries, Thiru.Thangam Thenarasu, received the floats by offering flowers, when they reached Virudhunagar District border. Later, the floats

were stationed at Venkatachalapuram Junction, R.R.Nagar, for the public to see them. Later, they were taken to the District Collectorate, where they were given traditional reception by the District Collector by offering flowers.

On 08.02.2022, the floats reached Melavastha Chavadi at Thanjavur District,where a grand reception was given under the leadership of the District Collector. Accompanied by Thappattam, Mayilattam, Kalaiyattam, Silambattam, Puliattam, Karakattam and traditional folk dances, the floats were brought to the new bus stand, where they were kept for public view. Members of the public and school students visited the site of the floats and took selfies.

The floats, which reached Bangalamedu in Theni District on 08.02.2022, were given an impressive reception with traditional folk arts programmes. People from all over the District thronged the place and saw the floats with interest.

On 09.02.2022, the floats reached Dindigul District, where they were kept on show at the Anguvilas Higher Secondary School grounds for the public to view. The floats were received by the Hon'ble Minister for Co-operation, Thiru. I.Periasamy, by showering flower petals. Later, the District Collector visited the floats. On behalf of school students, cultural functions were conducted.

On 10.02.2022 the vehicles reached Nallampalli in Dharmapuri District and they were stationed at Pagalahalli Lakshminarayana Polytechnic college, where the District Collector offered flower petals. Following this, on behalf of the Art and Culture Department, Karakattam, other cultural functions and debates were conducted by the college students.

On 10.02.2022 the floats arrived at Vaduvur village on the border of Tiruvarur District, where they were given a grand reception by a team led by the District Collector by offering flowers.

The floats, which were parked at Theradi Grounds in Mannargudi were earlier received by Hon'ble Minister for Food and Civil Supplies Thiru. R. Sakkarapani. Cultural programmes were organized on the occasion. On 11.02.2022, the floats, on reaching Ariyalur, were received by a team led by the District Collector and, school

and college students. Later they were stationed for the public and students to see the vehicles. There were also cultural programmes by students.

In the evening of 11.02.2022, the vehicles reached the junction of Jegathap Panchayat-

National Highways Junction, Krishnagiri District, where they were received by the District Collector, by offering flowers and traditional folk dances. On behalf of the District Administration, traditional arts of Tamil Nadu such as Melathalangal, Karakattam, Oyilattam, Mayilattam and Silambattam were performed. The vehicles were parked there for the public and students of Jagathaap Panchayat to visit. The vehicles were taken to the new bus stand on12.02.2022, where the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles,Thiru. R.Gandhi paid his respects to the floats by offering flower petals. Various cultural programmes were organized.

On 12.02.2022, the floats reached Kunnam, on the border of Perambalur, when they were given

a reception by the Hon'ble Minister for Backward Classes Welfare, Thiru. S.S.Sivasankar. Later, the floats were taken to Perambalur Palakkarai and stationed there for the public to see them. Various cultural programmes were conducted. A debate on "Vidudhalai Poril Thamizhagam" Tamil Nadu's role in the freedom movement was organized on the occasion.

On 12.02.2022, when the floats arrived at the junction of the Velakalnatham National Highways

Junction at Natrampalli Division, in Tiruppatur District, they were welcomed by a team headed by the District Collector. Following this, there were cultural programmes. People and students were happy to have a look at the vehicles. On13.02.2022, the floats were showcased at Natrampalli, Vaniyambadi and Ambur Hindu Higher Secondary School near National Highways Junction where the students and the public took pleasure by taking selfies with the floats in the background.

On 13.02.2022, the vehicles reached Pavalur village in Virudhachalam in Cuddalore District, where they were welcomed by the District Collector by showering flowers on the vehicles. Students dressed in the garb of national leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Bharathiyar attracted

the attention of people. Cultural programmes took place.

On 14.02.2022, the floats were given a grand reception by the Collector of Kallakurichi District at the toll gate at Ulundurpet followed by cultural programmes by students.

On 15.02.2022, the Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education, Dr.Ponmudy received the Republic Day floats at the Villupuram District Collectorate by offering flowers. Following this, there were cultural programmes by students for whom the District Collector distributed prizes.

Following this, the floats reached Aaryas Hotel on the Tindivanam National Highways, where the Hon'ble Minister for Minorities Welfare and Non-Resident Tamils welfare, Thiru. Gingee K.S.Masthan paid their respects by offering flower petals.

On 14.02.2022, the decorated vehicles reached Kuthambakkam National Highways close to Pallikondan at Vellore District, where the public in large numbers received the vehicles.

On 15.02.2022, the vehicles reached Vallimalai in Melpadi Panchayat in Katpadi Union in Vellore District where the Hon'ble Minister for Waterways, Thiru. Durai Murugan welcomed the vehicles and also participated in cultural programmes organized by students.

On 15.02.2022, the vehicles reached Chikkarayapuram area in Ranipet District border, when the District Collector received the vehicles with traditional Mangala Vadyam, followed by cultural programmes.

On 16.02.2022 the Hon'ble Minister for Handlooms and Textiles, Thiru. R.Gandhi, participated in the reception given to the floats, when they reached Muthukadai bus-stand in Ranipet. The Minister also offered flower petals to the floats.

On 16.02.2022, the floats reached Government Industrial Training Institute, Venpakkam in Chengalpattu District, where a team led by the District Collector paid their respects by offering

flowers. Later cultural programmes were organized by students.

On 17.02.2022, the Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Thiru. A.V.Velu, and the Deputy Speaker of the Assembly Thiru. K.Pichandi, received the floats at Esanya Grounds in Tiruvannamalai

Municipality and offered their respects to the floats by offering flowers. Following this, the District Collector paid his respects to the floats by offering flowers. Later there were cultural programmes by school students.

On 17.02.2022 the vehicles were received at the District border by the Kancheepuram District Collector. Later the vehicles were parked at Walajabad Panchayat Union grounds, where the District Collector visited the vehicles and inaugurated the cultural programmes. Stage plays and music programmes emphasising national integration were organized on the occasion.

Finally, the decorated floats highlighting the role played by the freedom fighters belonging to Tamil Nadu which had earlier participated in the Republic Day Parade in Chennai, returned to Chennai, on 20.02.2022 and were on show near Vivekananda Illam on the Marina. Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Thiru. Ma.Subramanian and Hon'ble Minister for HR and CE Thiru. Sekar Babu, welcomed the vehicles and paid their respects.

On 21.02.2022, the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru.M.K.Stalin, while returning from the Secretariat, saw the decorated floats were parked at Chennai Marina Beach, Kamarajar Road and Vivekanandar Illam to enable the public and students to view the vehicles. On seeing that the students of Rex Matriculation School, EVE Matriculation School N.K.T. National School for Boys, P.S.School Mylapore were gathered near the Republic Day Floats, the Hon'ble Chief Minister stopped his convoy, got down from his car and interacted with the students. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also took selfies along with the students near the floats. He also interacted with the common public.

The students informed the Hon'ble Chief Minister that the floats gave them a chance to know about the history of the freedom fighters belonging to the State. They said that the floats were educative in this regard.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister advised them to wear masks and follow the Corona guidelines, besides concentrating on their studies.

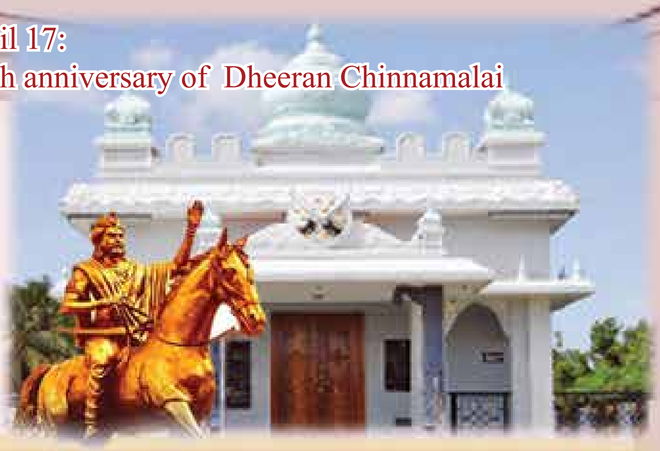
The floats parked at Marina Beach were visited by a large number of public and school students along with their families, on 22.02.2022. Descendants of freedom fighter Cuddalore Anjalai Amma, Thousand Lights MLA Dr. N.Ezhilan and State Planning Commission former vice-president Prof. M.Naganathan were among those who witnessed floats along with their family members.

Every day hundreds of people, students of various schools and tourists witnessed the floats.

Following representations through social media for extending the exhibition of the floats, which was earlier planned for 4 days from 20.02.2022 to 23.02.2022, the Hon'ble Chief Minister extended the date for one more week. On the Hon'ble Chief Minister's directive, the floats were stationed at Marina Beach till 28.02.2022, much to the benefit of school students and tourists.

April 14:
Birth anniversary of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

April 17:
Birth anniversary of Dheeran Chinnamalai



A TITANIC MAN

Dr. Ambedkar was the 'Star of Hope' and a 'Beacon Light' for the suppressed and oppressed classes and worked for their uplift . He was a genius who throughout his life served the cause of the downtrodden. He was the principal architect of the Indian Constitution. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru hailed him as a great man.

No one questioned the need for Independence. The Independence we have to get should not be an Independence in name alone. We should get freedom, but for whom? It should not be for a few rich people. We do not seek freedom for the luxurious life of a few persons.

Independence is needed for those who vie with dogs for a morsel of food. Further, I cannot believe that India has attained Independence as long as untouchability is practiced, entry into temples is barred and the question of qualification is raised when it comes to becoming an archaka.

As such, Ambedkar was one of the revolutionary leaders who wished that Independence should be complete and total.

Lenin emerged as a revolutionary leader in the Soviet Union. In a similar way, Ambedkar was the revolutionary leader who emerged for the oppressed scheduled caste people.

-**Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar**

(from the inaugural speech for North Arcot Ambedkar District – 30.09.1989)

A fearless warrior who triumphed against the British

Dheeran Chinnamalai, an Indian freedom fighter who fought against the rule of the East India Company in Tamil Nadu along with Karuppa Servai, was born on 17.04.1756. He built the Odanilai Fort in the Kongu region.

Dheeran Chinnamalai joined forces with Tipu Sultan to annihilate the British raj. He had a very good influence in the Kongu region and joined Tipu Sultan's army along with his well trained warriors and fought triumphantly in the Mysore Wars against the British forces. At Siddheswaram, Mazhavalli and Srirangapattinam, Chinnamalai fought in alliance with Tipu's army against the British.

After the demise of Tipu Sultan, Chinnamalai constructed a fort at Odanilai and gave armed training to youth near Sivanmalai to oppose the British forces. He also aligned with the French forces and involved himself in making cannons. Dheeran Chinnamalai joined Dhondia Wagh, Paramathi Appachi and Virupachi Gopal Naicker, who were considered the chief warriors of the Tipu forces, and planned to attack Coimbatore fort in the year 1800. But unfortunately the operation failed.

In the 1801 war on the banks of River Bhavani, he defeated the British forces. In the 1802 war held between Chennimalai and Sivanmalai and in the 1804 war at Arachalur, he fought against the army of Col. Harris and registered victories.

To trap Chinnamalai, Britishers hatched a plan with his cook and successfully nabbed him and his brothers. Dheeran Chinnamalai was taken to Sankagiri fort, where he was hanged to death.

Feburary19 : 168th birth anniversary of 'Thamizh Thaathaa' Dr. U.Ve.Sa

"Savants of the Tamil language which originated from mount Pothigai, will praise you all through their lives and cherish you in their hearts; you will live forever" –Kavi Bharathi showered praise on U.Ve. Swaminatha Iyer, the 'Grand Old Sire of Tamil', in this way. If we have the Sangam Tamil classics today, enjoy the culture and tradition of the ancient Tamils and experience the literary flavour of Tamil poems, it is due to the extraordinary works of U.Ve. Swaminatha Iyer. He retrieved the 'Pathupattu' literary works that declare to the world the greatness of the ancient Tamils, four of the 'Ettu Thogai' literary works - 'Pathitrupathu', 'Purananooru', 'Aingurunooru and 'Paripadal', the epics of 'Silapadhikaram' of Ilango Adigal, Sivaka Chintamani and Manimegalai and other literary and grammatical works, by going in search of them, saving them from termites, writing commentaries on them and bringing them into print from palm leaves.

– Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar

THAMIZH THAATHAA

I adore on his birth anniversary, the services of 'Thamizh Thatha' 'U.Ve.Sa.' for his relentless search in securing the literary works of the Sangam Age, the Buddhist and Jain epics and countless other ancient Tamil works that were in palm leaves and symbolized the antiquity of the Tamil language. He brought them into print and etched a permanent place for himself in the history of Tamil publishing.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru.M.K. Stalin

Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare Thiru. Ma. Subramanian paid floral tributes to a portrait of 'Thamizh Thaathaa' U.Ve.Sa. placed near his statue, in connection with the Thamizh Thaathaa's 168th birth anniversary in the campus of Presidency College, Chennai on 19.02.2022.

FEBRUARY 18: BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF 'SINTHANAI SIRPI' SINGARAVELAR

Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare Thiru. Ma. Subramanian *paid floral tributes to a portrait of* 'Sinthanai Sirpi' M. Singaravelar, placed near his statue, in connection with his 163rd birth anniversary in the campus of the Chennai District Collectorate on 18.02.2022.

In memory of 'Sinthanai Sirpi' M. Singaravelar, his birth anniversary was declared as a Government function by Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar. He named the Chennai Collectorate as 'Sinthanai Sirpi Singaravelar Maligai' and declared open his statue in that campus. He added glory to Singaravelar by naming the fishermen's Housing Scheme after him.

April 27:
Birth anniversary of Sir Pitti Thiyagarayar

April 29:
Birth anniversary of Paventhar Bharathidasan

The king of white attire

'The King of White Attire' Sir Pitti Thiyagarayar, one of the founders of the Justice Party, hailed as one of the senior leaders of the Dravidian Movement, was born on 27.04.1852. He practiced law and was also an industrialist.

In 1905, the then Governor of Madras Province gave approval to Sir Pitti Thiyagarayar, the Mayor of the city to receive in white attire, the Prince of England George V when he arrived in Chennai.

He started the Justice Party along with Dr. T.M.Nair in 1916 to speak for the welfare of non-Brahmins. As President, he led the party in an excellent manner. His Policy Enunciation Statement created an awareness among people and they gave support in a big way to the policies and programmes of the Justice Party. The party insisted on freedom to India but at the same time sought full rights and protection for the backward classes, scheduled castes and tribes.

The Justice Party earned the confidence of the people on account of Sir Pitti Thiyagarayar's selfless and relentless efforts. In the 1921 Madras Presidency Legislative Council election, the Justice Party secured a majority and staked claim for forming the Government. The then Governor Lord Willingdon invited Thiyagarayar to form the Government but he declined the office of Chief Minister and made Subbarayalu Reddiar, a lawyer in Cuddalore, the Chief Minister.

On January 1, 1909, the British Government conferred the title Rao Bahadur on Sir Pitti Thiyagarayar. On January 1, 1919, the title of Dewan Bahadur was also conferred on him. He died on 28.04.1925.

A treasure house of poems

Bharathidasan is a treasure-house of poems expressing a variety of emotions from subtle mirth to the ferocity of a tiger, evincing in between the aroma of cow's ghee and the pleasant sight of the dance of the 'vaalai' fish in the air.

We have heard about the ocean of milk from the Puranas. But Bharathidasan grew to be a milky ocean that pervaded the hearts in the Tamil land.

In the ocean of his poetry, pulsating emotions, modernity and the outburst of revolutionary thoughts surge forward as waves. His appearance exuded pride, his command over the words that burst out of his heart echoed greater pride that can trample upon meanness and baseness and utterly destroy them.

The heroic lines of his congratulatory message for the first anniversary celebrations of Thamizh Manavar Mandram, which I was conducting in Thiruvarur within my means, are still green in my memory and fuel the feelings of upsurge, race and language and loyalty to the Country .

He has shed his mortal coils, leaving the lines of his poems as sentries of the city of rationalism. Bharathidasan is no longer the name of an individual; it is the name of a compilation of poems that shower the sweetness of the Tamil language. Let us cherish that Bharathidasan amongst us forever and adore him.

-Muthamizh Arignar Kalaignar

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Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** inaugurated the Intensified Pulse Polio Immunization camp at Alwarpet, Chennai on 27.02.2022.

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Hon'ble Chief Minister with students witnessing Republic Day tableau

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